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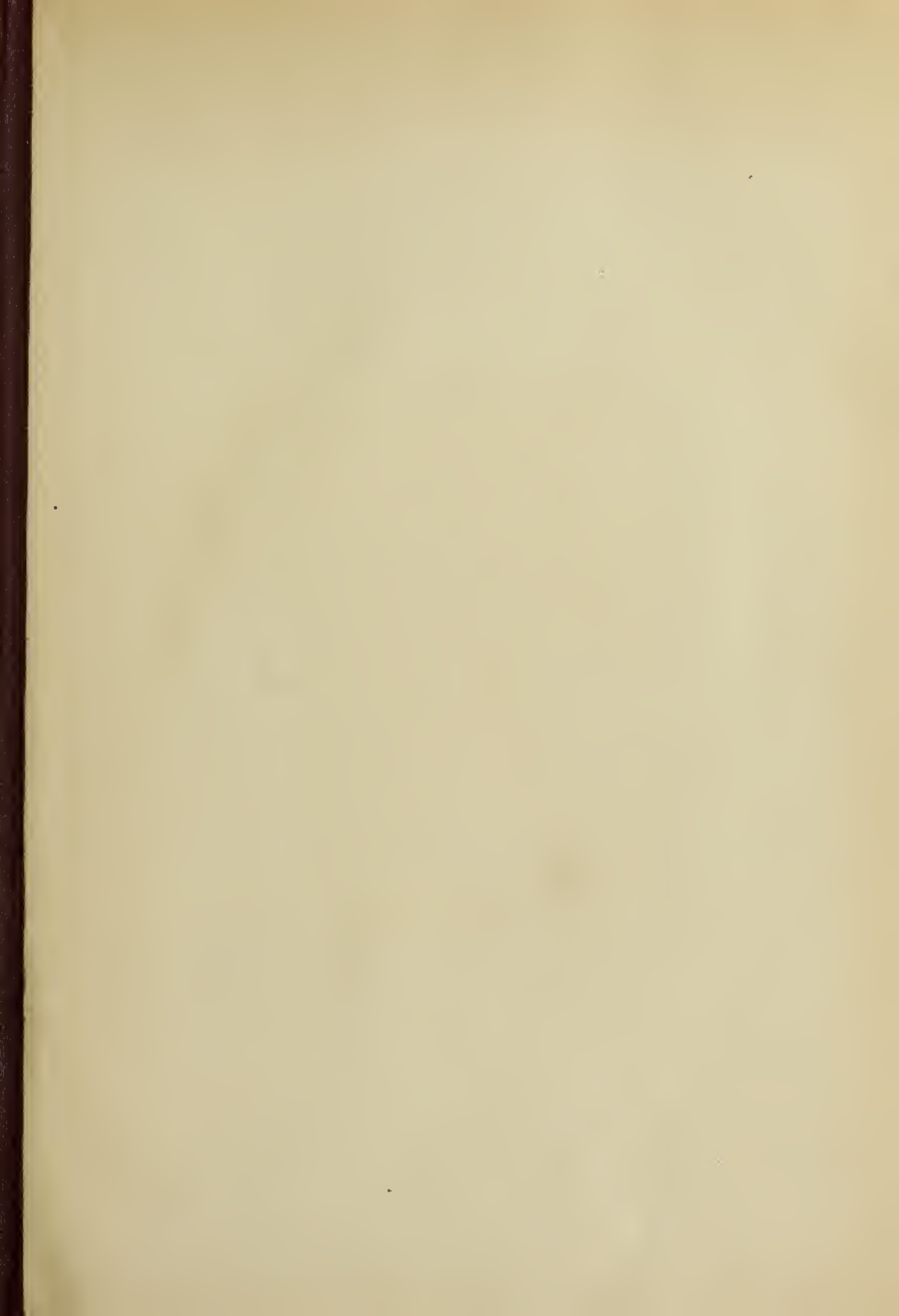
S. H. WALKER

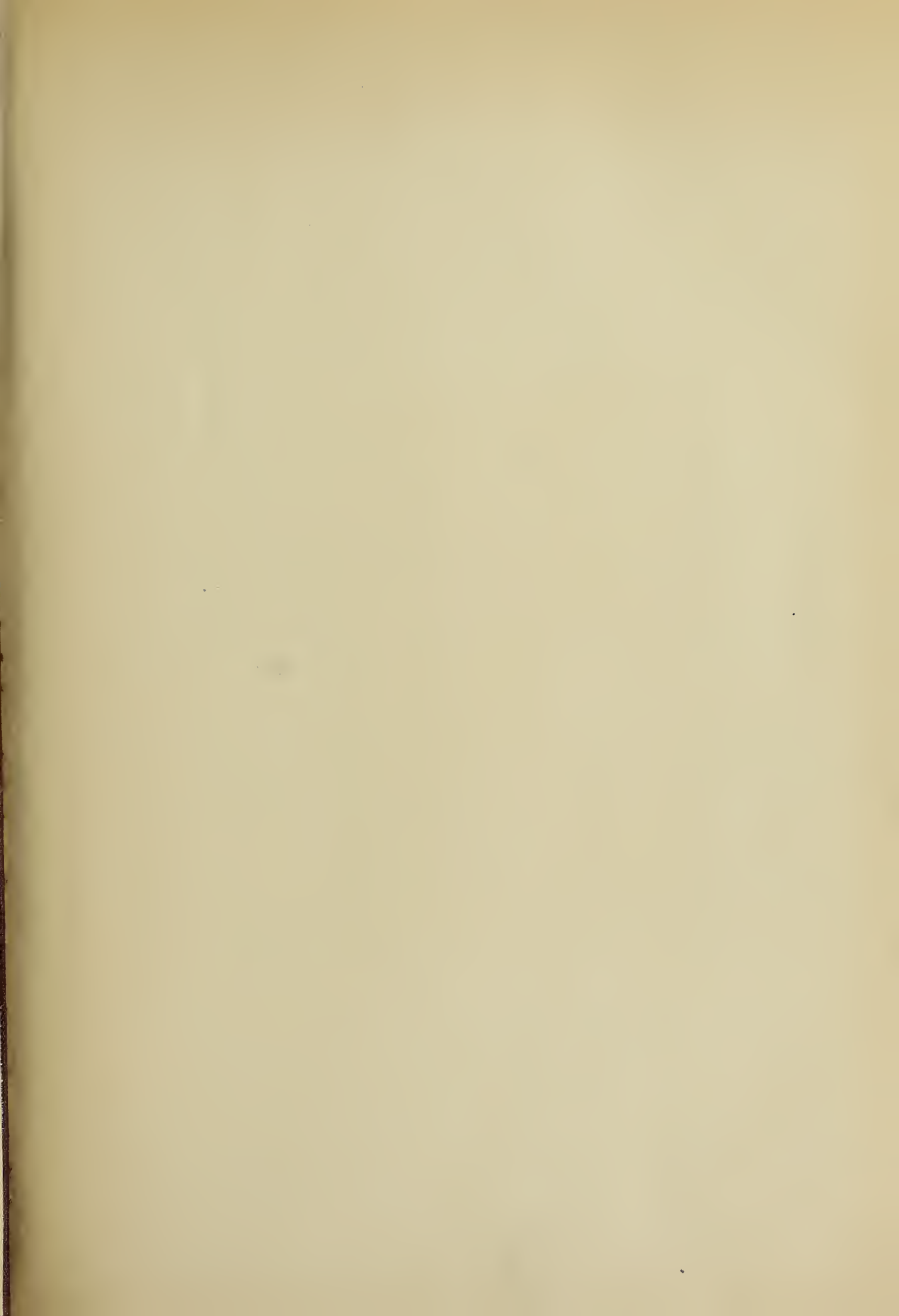
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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 1

Section 1

July 1, 1931.

HOOVER DEBT PLAN

The press to-day says: "The United States and France are in a tight but not necessarily an unbreakable deadlock upon the terms of President Hoover's proposal for a year's suspension of intergovernmental war debts and reparations payments. This was revealed yesterday after officials of the two governments let it be known how far apart they are upon essential details of the French counter-proposal, following a week of negotiations carried on both here and in Paris...."

A Rome dispatch to-day says: "Without waiting for the outcome of negotiations in Paris, Italy put the Hoover moratorium plan into operation yesterday by notifying her debtors that no payments will be expected from them to-day, when an installment is due. Dino Grandi, the Foreign Minister, disclosed that the debtor nations, as well as the United States and Great Britain, had been informed of the Italian attitude. America and England as creditors were notified that Italy is ready to pay her obligations when they fall due should the Hoover plan fail and payments be required...."

A Brussels dispatch to-day says: "The text of the Belgian reply to President Hoover's war-debt proposal, made public yesterday, accepts in principle but makes reservations for the application of the plan to Belgium...."

FARM BOARD WHEAT

The press to-day states that the Federal Farm Board announced last night it will limit its sales of Government-owned wheat during the fiscal year beginning last midnight to a maximum of 60,000,000 bushels, exclusive of sales to foreign governments or their agencies now being considered.

THE SECRETARY ON WHEAT PRODUCTION

A Kansas City dispatch to-day says: "Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture, said in an interview at Kansas City yesterday that, in his judgment, the world-wide production of wheat during the coming year will be at least 350,000,000 bushels short of last season."

FREIGHT RATES

Action to hasten a solution of the railroad freight rate problem was taken yesterday by the Interstate Commerce Commission, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Revised rates expected to increase the revenues of lines in eastern and western trunk line territories from \$50,000,000 to \$70,000,000 annually were ordered into effect December 1. Two series of hearings on the appeal for a 15 per cent general rate increase throughout the country were scheduled to begin in Washington July 15 and August 31. Later hearings will be held in other cities. Opponents of the increase were asked to file their objections by July 20...."

Section 2

Electricity in Japan Properties owned by the Japanese power and light industry are valued at about \$2,000,000,000, including networks of transmission and distribution systems traversing the empire and an installed capacity of generating stations totaling about 5,100,000 horsepower, according to an article in The New York Times of June 28. Power houses either under construction or contemplated will provide an additional 2,500,000 horsepower. This does not include the 133,000 horsepower hydroelectric development of the Taiwan Company on the Island of Formosa.

Farm Financing An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for June 27 says: "It is apparent to all who have studied the present situation that a new financial policy is needed. This is true as regards both agriculture and business. The banking policy of the Government and the banks must be modified to meet changing conditions, unless both agriculture and business are to continue to suffer. The cooperation of the Government with the banks and the folks with whom the banks do business is absolutely essential at this time. We can not have a prosperous business without a prosperous agriculture--nor can we have a prosperous agriculture without a prosperous business, and there needs to be some clear thinking done on the financial problem....What the banks need to-day is getting their money out at work, and if there was a more liberal policy on the part of both the national and State bank authorities with regard to farm loans, it would help the present situation tremendously. In times like these we can not see any real justice to criticizing a loan that is safe but of long maturity. In the nature of things, we must have long-time loans these days. Forcing farm lands and other real estate on the market surely is a very unwise policy, and some arrangement should be made whereby real estate loans, and particularly farm loans that are safe and sound, could be carried by the banks and by the insurance companies without undue criticism on the part of those examining the banks. The lesson of the past two years for agriculture, and for business as well, is to have more working capital. Many farm folks are not able to do the things that would mean making more money for them, which they could pass on to those they owe, on account of their inability to secure money to carry on the farm at a fair rate of interest. There are many good farmers, experts in growing crops and livestock, who are not able to get money at the banks to handle their farms and livestock to the best possible advantage....We would like to see the banks and the Government get together and formulate a policy which would enable the banks to make a lower rate of interest in order that agriculture might be properly financed...."

Fish Flour An editorial in The Miami Herald for June 25 says: "According to the United States Bureau of Fisheries bread can be made of fish. The flesh is first dried and ground into flour and then it can be turned into muffins, popovers, pancakes, biscuit, rolls or bread. While it may not look like shad, mackerel, bluefish or perch the fish is there and it has the sustenance that it had when swimming around in the water and wondering as to the edibility of a worm or artificial fly. This is an era of wonders. Alfalfa has been made into breakfast food and there are folks who say they have found it in smoking tobacco. Paper is made of wood pulp as well as cornstalks, wheat straw and other fibers that have long been wasted. Perhaps carrots can be made into ginger snaps or ice cream so that they will be palatable or at least edible...."

Ford Experi-
mental
Farm

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.Dak.) for June 24 says: "The worth of the principle that we should create new farm products and new markets for old farm products seems to have impressed Henry Ford. And, as usual, the eminent automobile manufacturer and capitalist proposes to do something more than just think about it. He has established an experimental farm near Detroit and proposes to make intensive and extensive investigation in respect to rural activities. He pictures an America of the future in which there will be a much closer relation between the factory and the farm than that which now exists. He sees a nation with a multitude of small manufacturing centers thickly scattered over the country, each surrounded by its area of producing farms. The vision is an appealing one and may become an actuality sooner than most persons might expect. In truth, a trend in that direction is already underway. No longer do manufacturers believe that they must build their plants only in or adjacent to the great centers of population. They are learning that distinct advantages can come from sites in places where the population is not so congested and closer to the production of the raw supplies. Some years ago, there were bars to the establishment of factories at a distance from the big cities. Transportation and communication facilities as well as power supplies were frequently inadequate. Modern inventions and advancements, however, have changed this and the former disadvantages no longer exist. On the other hand, the manufacturers find lower real estate costs, opportunities for expansion without prohibitive charges and better living conditions as points in favor of the smaller communities...."

International
Bank

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 29 says: "The Bank of International Settlements is rapidly developing into an institution of prime importance in the financial world. Beginning business in May of last year the bank shows an increase in deposits during the first ten and one-half months from \$44,000,000 to \$356,000,000. This bank was organized for the collection of reparations payable from Germany under the Young plan and their distribution to the allies. Its shareholders are the central banks or other financial institutions of the various nations, representing twenty-six countries. The bank has been able to effect savings in time and exchange charges in the settlement of reparation and war debt payments. In addition to this function it serves as a clearing intermediary for banks requiring movements of gold from one market to another. The concentration in this institution of a part of the foreign reserves of central banks has facilitated the development of transfer operations from bank to bank by book transfers and debits and credits in the accounts of the Bank of International Settlements without going through the open market...."

Livestock
Parade

An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for June 27 says: "The livestock industry had a parade in Chicago last week. It was some parade from start to finish and marched right down Michigan Avenue, one of the famed aristocratic thoroughfares of the world. Here were porkers from the Corn Belt, fat cattle, spring lambs and tender young veal calves. History was portrayed as for instance when King James dubbed an especially fine steak 'Sir Loin.' The healthful advantages of meat were set forth in pageant and float. The enormity of the meat industry from farm to consumer was set forth by participation of all who handle

livestock. The big feature of the parade, however, was the announcement to the world that meat prices have declined on the hoof and in the butcher shop, and that the consumer, to whom the parade was directed, can now eat meat and lots of it for much less money than two years ago. Incidentally such a public portrayal of the decline in wholesale meat prices brings the retailer in line and helps the good cause along. It took organization to bring all the elements contributing to the livestock and meat industry together. It took management to stage a spectacular feature such as the recent parade. It took some good sharp common sense to vision the whole idea in the first place. These things combined with a lot of good old-fashioned hard work should help the livestock industry. Anything that tells the consumer of your product about its advantages helps sell it."

Rat Infestation

The Medical Officer (London) for June 13 says: "Whether the extermination of rats is ever likely to be achieved by man is doubtful, but it must be admitted at once that at present it is not even theoretically conceivable. This is an important point, because unless it is recognized all rat campaigns come to nothing. We can keep down rats by universal, continuous war upon them by all means at our command, but unless it is continuous and universal, little can come of it. A spasmodic local rat-~~work~~ is probably favorable rather than the reverse to the rat population. The hope that some day somebody may discover a disease which will exterminate rats must be abandoned, unless we are prepared to reject all that the study of parasitology has taught us. The rat menace has come to stay, probably as long as man inhabits the earth, and the only way man can hold his own against it is by perpetual, relentless war. The recent revival of the black rat tells a story with a highly instructive moral which should warn us that the wit is not all on our side and any slackness on our part is quickly followed by the advance of the enemy...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 30.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; vealers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.40 to \$6.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.90 to \$7.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.65 to \$7.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7 to \$7.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 70 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 73 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 59 to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 49 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 50¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 49 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis, 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 54¢; Kansas City 54 to 55¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 60 to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 60 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 26 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 26 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; Kansas City 30¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.75 per stave barrel in eastern markets; \$1.80-\$1.90 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.60 in the East. Arkansas and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago and f.o.b. sales 65¢-70¢ at Fort Smith and Muskogee. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions brought \$1.35-\$2 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in city markets. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, closed at \$325-\$535 bulk per car in New York City; \$135-\$300 f.o.b. southern Georgia points. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; \$2 f.o.b. Macon. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-\$2.65 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Arizona Salmon Tints \$2-\$3 in the East; 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. Phoenix.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 25¢; 91 score, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 24¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 15 points to 9.34¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.50¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 12 points to 9.79¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton declined 16 points to 9.74¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 2

Section 1

July 2, 1931.

THE SECRETARY ON DROUGHT RELIEF

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Kansas City says: "Promise of Federal drought relief went out to stricken areas of North Dakota and Montana yesterday. Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture, who was here for a conference with Gov. George E. Shafer, of North Dakota, and a group of State officials and farmers from the two States, agreed to extend all the aid possible under the law....The Secretary based his decision upon the plea of Governor Shafer and upon a report made by John G. Brown, special representative of the department. Brown reported that a desperate situation exists in 31 counties of northwestern North Dakota and northeastern Montana, a region impoverished by crop failure last year, in which farmers borrowed \$4,000,000 to finance this year's crop...."

HOOVER DEBT PLAN

The press to-day says: "A memorandum stating the American Government's position on the Hoover debt relief proposals was presented to France yesterday. It seeks to conciliate France, while offering some concessions, and at the same time warns of the danger of a collapse in Germany's economic structure. The French Cabinet will consider the memorandum to-day. Its reception was the chief topic of interest in Paris yesterday. Germany, worried by new riots precipitated by Communists and Hitlerites, is anxiously watching the negotiations in Paris...."

TREASURY CONDITIONS

The press to-day says: "With a deficit of \$903,000,000 and an increase in the outstanding public debt of \$616,000,000, the Federal Government yesterday ended its most unfavorable fiscal year in recent history. Acting Secretary Ogden L. Mills issued a detailed statement yesterday showing that Treasury receipts were \$3,317,000,000, a decline of \$861,000,000 from 1930, and expenditures chargeable against ordinary receipts were \$4,220,000,000, or \$226,000,000 more than last year, when there was a surplus of \$184,000,000...."

NITRATE PACT PLANS

A Paris dispatch to-day says: "Although the World Nitrate Conference, which has been meeting at Scheveningen, Holland, has now adjourned until July 14, most of the delegates are confident that an agreement will be reached when deliberations are resumed on that date in Lucerne, Switzerland. The Dutch negotiations, despite the inability of the participants to iron out all difficulties, nevertheless accomplished much in laying the ground work for a world accord. A substantial understanding was achieved among the synthetic nitrate producers of nine European nations and the combined nitrate interests of Chile, known as the Nitrate Corporation of Chile...."

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Section 2

Chadbourne's Sugar Plan Thomas L. Chadbourne is interviewed by Herbert Brucker for the July Review of Reviews. The writer says: "...The mission of Mr. Chadbourne had its beginning in his endeavor to relieve Cuba's economic plight. But the world-price of sugar had fallen so low that it was ruining other sugar-producing areas besides those of the West Indies. The agreements for marketing under Mr. Chadbourne's lead do not include the entire world output, but they go far enough to promise substantial results. Underlying Mr. Chadbourne's plan, which is now on a definite basis of acceptance, is something more than will-power and energy. There were maladjustments with which many people had been struggling for several years, in their different areas. The situation as a whole was ready for a leader who could bring Cuban and American interests into agreement with Dutch interest in Java, as well as with French, Belgian and other European interests. In some commodities increased consumption is the chief need. But in sugar, rubber, oil, coffee, lumber and wheat, there has been overproduction with glutted markets and ruinously low prices. Mr. Chadbourne's experience might well be applied in some other fields besides that of sugar. He has shown us that things can be done; and so he supplies some increment of fresh courage in all directions..."

In the editorial section of the same journal the following appears: "'The results of our agreements thus far,' declares Mr. Chadbourne, 'are largely negative. Raw sugar is selling at roughly a cent and a quarter a pound, and to produce sugar costs on an average two cents a pound. But there is a large surplus in the principal exporting countries of the world. Without our agreements, Heaven only knows what the price would have dropped to. It is now the lowest it has been in nearly thirty years....I am firmly convinced that before the end of this year the price of sugar will have risen to two cents a pound. Moreover, I believe that this method of restricting production will succeed. You can not blame people for being skeptical about it. No attempt to restrict the production of any of the world's staples has ever succeeded. But I think that, when the success of this plan has been demonstrated, it will be followed by application of the same principle to overproduction in other commodities, like wheat or rubber or oil or coffee. The difficulty with many of them is that the individual producers within a country are not sufficiently organized.'..."

Farm Production Shift An editorial in The Washington Farmer for June 25 says: "What is to be the future of farming on the Pacific coast? That question has forced itself upon farmers as never before in this country. Must the Pacific coast States ever keep in mind and, as far as their conditions will permit, follow the lines of agriculture which dominate the great farming States of the Mississippi Valley? In other words, are there dominating trends of farming on the Pacific coast which are a distinct departure from the fundamentals of farming of the Middle West? Farm leaders in California are looking deeply into this question. In the total value of its agricultural output, California is now included among the first half a dozen agricultural States of the country. Tremendous agricultural problems face California to-day. These problems are being faced with courage and thought. Discussing 'Trends in California Agriculture,' C. B. Hutchison, dean of the college of agriculture, University of California, declares that agriculture as an industry is constantly

changing; that its activities are never static; that its progress is marked by continuous shifts as readjustments are made to meet new and changing conditions. 'The farmers of California have in the last decade made many shifts in their production in an effort to meet the rapidly changing conditions with which they have been confronted,' says Dean Hutchison....Are there not shifts to be made in livestock production as well? One could go on asking questions galore. How far shall these changes go and where shall they be halted?"

Livestock and Meat

A number of lines in the packing industry showed improvement during the month of June, according to a review of the livestock and meat situation issued July 1 by the Institute of American Meat Packers. Cattle and hog prices advanced during June from the low point reached at the end of May, as a result of a somewhat stronger consumer demand for pork and beef. Other features of the month's trade included improvement in the hide and leather industry, slightly higher prices for lard, and a generally firmer demand for meat products. Light cuts of meat, particularly the lighter weights of pork loins, hams, bacon, and beef chucks, were in greater demand than the heavier cuts. Consequently, the heavier weights of these meats offer unusually attractive bargains for the housewife. The smoked meat trade improved slightly during the month, and prices moved somewhat higher. Picnics showed considerable advance in price and met with good demand. The ham trade showed some improvement. Consumption of smoked meats increased during June. At the present time bacon, especially the heavier weights, represents an unusually attractive buy for the American housewife. The export trade in meats continued dull during the month of June. Trade in lard was seasonally light, but generally up to expectations.

Living Cost

The cost of living for the average wage earner is now lower than at any time in the past twelve years and it is still going down, according to a report soon to be published by the National Industrial Conference Board, New York, dealing with the subject for the period between 1914 and 1930. An advance summary of the report, made public June 27, shows that in 1930 as a whole the cost of living averaged 3.8 per cent lower than in 1929 and 4.2 per cent lower than in 1928. At the end of the year the index was at the lowest point recorded during the past twelve years, being at exactly the same point as in June, 1918. From December, 1930, to April, 1931, the index dropped 4.8 per cent and in April it was 11.8 per cent lower than in 1923, the newly adopted base index year used for the first time by the conference board in preparing the report. The largest price declines in 1930, as compared with 1929 and 1928, were noted in clothing and food prices. The decline in clothing prices was somewhat larger than that in food prices, but, since food plays a greater part in the wage earner's family than does clothing, the changes in food prices have contributed more to the reduction. In the matter of rents, the report finds that in the United States as a whole they were 2.7 per cent lower in 1930 than in 1929 and 4.5 per cent lower than in 1928. These declines are not attributed to the depression, but to a general downward tendency in rents since 1924...The purchasing value of the dollar at the end of 1930, based on the conference board cost of living figures, was 108 cents, compared with 100 cents in 1923. (Press June 28.)

Treasury
Deficit

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for July 1 says: "Never content to do things in a small way, the United States has fashioned its first Treasury deficit since the World War in the imposing proportions of \$850,000,000, more or less. Actually, it is even handsomer than this bookkeeping entry reveals, for the Treasury expenditures, and so the deficit, include only \$225,000,000 on account of loans to veterans, whereas such advances made under the new law since February approximate \$800,000,000. So the year's real deficit, after making the statutory reduction of \$440,000,000 in outstanding Government bonds, is something like \$1,425,000,000. If the sinking fund payment be regarded as in the nature of a saving out of current income, the deficit would still remain so little short of an even billion dollars as makes no matter. It is in the face of this substantial gap between income and outgo that the United States has courageously proposed to help the world to regain its economic footing by postponing all intergovernment payments for a year. In the twelve months just ended, the United States received \$236,000,000 of such payments; in the ensuing year they would, except for the moratorium President Hoover proposes, amount to \$246,000,000. Moreover, the present outlook is for further shrinkage in Federal Treasury receipts, at least during the first half of the fiscal year beginning to-day. These are the darker shadows of the picture. Relieving them somewhat are a number of retrenchments in Federal expenditure fairly crying to be made....Amortization of Government liability on veterans' compensation certificates, proceeding at the rate of \$112,000,000 a year and doubled last year by anticipating this year's payment, can safely be reduced or even omitted. The principal of the obligation maturing in 1945 has been cut down not only to the extent of the \$800,000,000 additional loans recently made but by the total of roughly \$1,100,000,000 of all loans on certificates....."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in Nation's Business for July says: "Our food habits are changing. O. E. Baker of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics told the International Chamber of Commerce about it the other day. We have dropped the amount of cereals, particularly corn and rye. We are using less wheat flour, less beef and veal but rather more pork, sugar and dairy products. Now with a drop in general business there has been a decline in all food consumption. But statesmanship is seldom lacking in crisis. The Honorable Cyrenus Cole, Representative in Congress from the Fifth Iowa District where pigs are a leading industry is ready with a solution. Said he to the Sioux City Live Stock Association: 'Make the slices of bacon and ham thicker.' An admirable suggestion but does it go far enough? Why slice it at all? Why not a ham to a person? Awkward perhaps but think of the result on Iowa's pork! But if Cole of Iowa asks us to slice our ham and bacon thicker, won't Capper of Kansas, stalwart friend of the wheat farmer, want us to slice our bread, also, a little thicker? Think of the resultant sandwich!"

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 1.--Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $69\frac{1}{2}$ to $72\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 62¢; St. Louis $57\frac{1}{2}$ to 59¢ (new) Kansas City $48\frac{1}{2}$ (new); No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 48 to $48\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (new); No.3 mixed corn Chicago 60¢; Minneapolis $51\frac{1}{2}$ to 52¢; Kansas City 53 to $53\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 60 to $60\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis $53\frac{1}{2}$ to $54\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 60¢; Kansas City $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $56\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis $24\frac{7}{8}$ to $25\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; Kansas City $28\frac{1}{2}$ to 29¢.

Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; vealers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.40 to \$6.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.85 to \$7.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$6.90 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$7.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$2-\$2.60 in the East. Oklahoma and Arkansas sacked Bliss Triumphs 75¢-\$1 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Fort Smith, Ark. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-\$2.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Arizona Salmon Tints \$1.75-\$2.50 with f.o.b. sales 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Phoenix. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3.25 per six-basket crate in terminal markets. North Carolina Early Rose \$3.50 in New York City. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions \$1.50-\$1.90 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in city markets. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$330-\$500 bulk per car in New York City; \$85-\$200 f.o.b. Southern Georgia points.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, $24\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score, 24¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh No.1 American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 22 points to 9.56¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.50¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 21 points to 10¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 22 points to 9.96¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 3

Section 1

July 3, 1931.

DROUGHT LOANS

The press to-day says: "As a result of surveys and reports which indicate a serious situation in the drought-affected regions of North Dakota and Montana, Secretary of Agriculture Hyde has decided to reopen relief loans to provide for feed for livestock, including dairy cattle, beef cattle and sheep. Loans will be made from funds remaining from the \$65,000,000 appropriated by the joint resolution of Congress of December 20, 1930 and the act of February 14, 1931....The Government will limit these feed loans to the amounts needed for 5 beef cattle, 5 dairy cattle, and 25 sheep for each family. The amount of money that will be loaned per head per month will be for dairy cattle \$4.25, for beef cattle \$4, for sheep 25 cents...."

HOOVER DEBT PLAN

The press to-day says: "Optimism pervaded administration circles yesterday with respect to the negotiations now in progress with France over President Hoover's proposal for a year's suspension of German reparations and all other inter-governmental debts. It was made known that instructions would be sent last night to Ambassador Edge in Paris for the guidance of himself and Secretary Mellon at a meeting to take place there at noon to-day with Premier Laval and other French Ministers. Officials said that until this meeting was held there could be no agreement between the two governments, but they did not deny press reports from Paris that a harmonization of the major divergent views was in sight...."

MACDONALD ON AMERICAN PURPOSE

A London dispatch to-day says: "Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald, speaking last night at the Independence Day dinner of the American Society in London, called the United States 'the greatest Nation which now exists on the face of the earth.'...He paid a glowing tribute to President Hoover's moratorium proposal, which he described as an act of 'great wisdom, courage and deep insight.'...Describing the world's economic difficulties as a result of overproduction in the Western Hemisphere and underproduction in the Eastern, he declared: 'Those of us who have been bending our heads in front of those difficulties, confessing that we are baffled by them; those of us who have gone through those experiences now begin to lift up our heads, to seek a way out to see hope, to get new energy and new courage to face those problems. If that is so, it is very largely owing to that wise and courageous action of the President of the United States....'"

STEPHEN BABCOCK DIES

A Madison, Wis., dispatch to-day states that Dr. Stephen Moulton Babcock, who revolutionized the dairy industry by discovery in 1890 of a test to determine the butterfat contents of milk, died at his home at Madison last night. Doctor Babcock, who was Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, was 87 years old.

Section 2

Bread Cost

Food Industries for July says: "A little less than 37¢ of the consumer's bread dollar goes into cost of material, according to a study of the retail price of bread by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Markets in Kenosha, Milwaukee, Madison, Janesville, Green Bay, Superior, and La Crosse for the calendar year 1930. Fourteen wholesale bakeries in the above named cities were visited for the purpose of gathering data pertaining to the cost of manufacture and distribution of bread. Information with reference to price paid and received by the retailer was secured by direct contact with 222 retail grocers. About one-third of the cost of materials was for ingredients other than flours, leaving about 25 per cent of retail price as flour cost. During 1930 flour prices declined more than any of the other ingredients used in the manufacture of bread. The average price paid by Wisconsin bakeries for patent flour at the beginning of 1930 was \$6.23 per barrel, whereas the average price paid for the same grade of flour during the latter part of December, 1930, was \$4.58, a decline of \$1.64 during the year on patent flours. The average price paid by Wisconsin wholesale bakers for clear flours during the early part of 1930 was \$5.33 per barrel, whereas the price at which they were enabled to purchase the same grade of flour during the latter part of the year was \$4.03 per barrel, showing a decline of \$1.30 per barrel on clear flours. The general price trend on powdered skim milk and sweetened condensed skim milk during the year 1930 was downward. Powdered skim milk varied from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per lb. at the start of the year and could be purchased at the close of the year for a price varying from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8¢ per lb. Sweetened condensed skim milk showed a downward trend almost in line with that of powdered skim. Shortening, salt, sugar, and yeast, showed very little difference in price at the close of the year as compared with the start of the year. Nearly 18¢ out of every dollar spent for bread is used to meet the expenses incident to operating the manufacturing baker's shop. This includes such items as salaries and wages, janitor service, supplies, steam and fuel, light, power, ice, refrigeration, water, shop supplies of all kinds, repairs to building, machinery and oven; depreciation, and insurance. During 1930 these shop expenses remained almost constant. Considerable variance was found at different plants in the percentage of cost for shop operation. General and administrative expenses in the wholesale bakery business during 1930 amounted to over 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ of the consumer's bread dollar... Nearly 20¢ of the dollar which the consumer pays for bread is required to maintain the selling and delivery service by the wholesale baker. The highly competitive nature of the distribution of bread on the part of the wholesale baker makes it a very expensive proposition....After the wholesale baker has bought and paid for his materials, has operated his plant, has met the necessary items of administrative expense and has maintained his selling and delivery service, his profit averaged 2.795¢ of the consumer's bread dollar, the survey revealed. The final 17.56¢ of the dollar goes to the retailer to operate his business, to meet his overhead and operating expenses, to take care of his delivery service, extend credit as required by the consumer, and to supply the retail profit."

[Faint, illegible markings]

Food Industry

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for June 27 says: "The apparent prosperity and stability of the great food industries of the country is an inexplicable anomaly to farmers who find themselves on an unprofitable round in the ladder of price levels for their own products. Business analysts have frequently pointed out in the past several months how the food industry has a most promising future because, in good times or bad, the hunger of humanity must be satisfied. Twenty-two billion dollars, or one-fourth of the national income, is spent for food annually. The value of the raw products is about one-half of that. Food products, as reported by 26 leading companies handling them, lost but three per cent in earnings during the first quarter of 1931, whereas the earnings of 357 principal companies averaged 46 per cent lower than a year ago. In fact, all but three of 35 other principal lines of industry showed severe declines in earnings. The question in the farmers' minds is why the industries processing and distributing their products show the least loss in periods of depression, while raw farm products are unprofitable. We agree that the furnishing of food must always be a fundamental industry, and that because of this the big food processing companies have a rosy future. We do insist, however, that this being the case, agricultural production should also be profitable, and its failure to be is because of certain weaknesses within the ranks of producers themselves which permit groups handling their products to have an advantage which they do not possess as producers. The solution must be organization of agriculture to provide more orderly marketing and distribution by farmers of their own products."

Northwest

Fruit Consumption

An editorial in The Washington Farmer for June 25 says: "As an interesting sidelight on the extended season of consumption which northwest fruits are enjoying this summer, New York City consumed one-third more Oregon pears during the first five months of this year than ever before. Total receipts to the end of May were 897 cars, as compared with 675 in 1930 and 607 in 1929. Early in June pears were featured on retail stands along with new-crop fruits, and it was believed that the demand would continue another month. During May, 104 cars were sold there, which was more than double the average. The increase is due partly to the larger crop produced in Oregon last season. This State furnished 64 per cent of the total used to May 31, California, Washington and New York the rest. Prices were not as high as in previous seasons, but compared favorably with prices received for oranges and apples. French estimates of northwest apples, as expressed by an expert of the academy of agriculture there in an effort to arouse Norman apple growers to combat American invasion of their markets, are more flattering than some made at home. 'American apples are always of first quality, perfectly packed, wormless, attractive in appearance,' he said. 'Their quality is constant, standardized, and if their competition is to be met, a standardized apple must be adopted by France.' Prizes for the best apples and products, expert advice, home consumption campaigns and possibly higher tariff duties will be resorted to to check the decline in French apple exports, which ranged from 39,000 tons in 1913 to 7,000 in 1930 and probably will go lower in 1931."

Trees, An editorial in The New York Times for July 2 says: "Each year
Weather and the Research Corporation awards a prize of \$2,500 to scientists who
Earth's have made important discoveries with no thought of pecuniary reward.
History For 1931 the prizes go to Dr. Andrew Douglass of the University of
 Arizona and to Dr. Ernst Antevs of the University of Stockholm. Each
 has studied ancient climates and weather; each has made it possible to
 trace the earth's history back 4,000 years; yet each has pursued his
 own path. Thirty years ago Doctor Douglass began collecting records of
 tree growth in the hope of discovering a relation between them and the
 weather. What began as a suspicion ended in a conviction. A compari-
 son of 10,000 annual tree rings with Arizona's rainfall year by year
 disclosed a direct relation between growth and moisture. What was true
 of one tree proved to be true of whole forests over a wide area. With
 the aid of the giant sequoias Doctor Douglass compiled a calendar that
 goes back to 1000 B.C. So accurate is his method of estimating time that
 the rings in timber taken from ancient pueblo settlements make it pos-
 sible to turn back the pages of American aboriginal history to 700 A.D.

"Doctor Antevs, on the other hand, has studied 'varves'--layers of clay deposited in the Connecticut Valley 4,000 years ago when glaciers melted....Like tree-rings, varves have only to be counted to arrive at the total age of a deposit. Moreover, the thickness of a varve is a measure of solar activity. Exceptionally thick varves testify to more water, a more copious melting, a hotter summer...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 2.—Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; vealers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$6.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.50 to \$7.15; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.10 to \$7.35; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.85 to \$7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$7.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein Minneapolis 70½ to 73½¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 57 to 58¢ (new); No.2 hard winter Kansas City 48¢ (new); No.3 mixed corn Chicago 59½¢; Minneapolis 51 to 51½¢; Kansas City 51 to 52¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 58½ to 59½¢; Minneapolis 54 to 55¢; St. Louis 59½¢; Kansas City 55 to 56¢; No.3 white oats Minneapolis 24½ to 24¾¢; St. Louis 30¢ (nom.); Kansas City 28 to 28½¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.60 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.70-\$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.50 in the East. Arkansas and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.25-\$1.50 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 60¢-75¢ f.o.b. Fort Smith. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-\$2.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; Perfectos 75¢-80¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Arizona Salmon Tints and Perfectos \$2-\$2.50 in a few cities; 85¢ f.o.b. Phoenix. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions \$1.40-\$1.90 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in consuming centers. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$3.10-\$4.50 bulk per car, auction sales, in New York City; \$75-\$175 f.o.b. southern Georgia points. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3.25 per six-basket crate in terminal markets. North Carolina Early Rose \$2.75-\$3.50 in New York City.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24½¢; 91 score, 24¢; 90 score, 23½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14½ to 14¾¢; Young Americas, 14½ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 16 points to 9.40¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.49¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 17 points to 9.83¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 13 points to 9.83¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 4

Section 1

July 6, 1931.

HOOVER DEBT PLAN

The press to-day says: "Renewed divergence of opinion developed yesterday between the French and American Governments regarding the method of handling payments in kind under the Young plan. Thus prospects for an acceptance in principal to-day by France of President Hoover's one-year governmental debt holiday plan dimmed considerably, it was revealed in administration quarters. Following an unexpected return of President Hoover from his Rapidan camp, a memorandum, pointing out that the French position on deliveries in kind was unacceptable to the United States, was dispatched last night to Secretary of the Treasury Mellon in Paris. This statement will be laid before the French negotiators by Mr. Mellon at their conference to-day...."

POWER CONTROL

A new study of power company control, looking to the possibility of bringing the great electric holding and management corporations under governmental regulation, has been initiated by the Power Commission, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The survey will be conducted by Dr. Walter M. W. Splawn, former president of the University of Texas, who last winter ended an investigation of railroad holding companies for the House interstate commerce committee with a recommendation that they be placed under Interstate Commerce Commission supervision. Legislation to put into effect these recommendations failed of passage by Congress. The power study will be based on those utility-operating companies holding licenses from the Federal Government. Their ownership, control and affiliation will be traced all the way up, whether it occurs through stock ownership, management contracts, financing or otherwise...."

GRAIN RATES

Lowered rates on grain shipped from producing points throughout the West, the Southeast, the Mississippi Valley and the Southwest July 3 were ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission to become effective August 1, according to the press of July 4. The report says: "The rates were revised under the commission's investigation of the general rate structure of the country provided in the Hoch-Smith law. Originally they were to have become effective June 1...."

SUGAR TARIFF

Thirty-six sugar companies of the United States, the American Sugar Cane League of New Orleans and the United States Beet Sugar Association have joined in a request to the Tariff Commission for an increase in tariff duties on refined sugar, the commission announced on July 3, according to the press of July 4.

BRITISH FRUIT CONSUMPTION

A London dispatch to-day states that statistics show that seven times as much grapefruit was consumed in England in 1930 as in 1924, peaches trebled in sales, but consumption of pears, grapes, plums, cherries and gooseberries declined.

Section 2

Dehydrating Mel Wharton, Los Angeles, Calif., writing on "Dehydrating Vegetable Products" in Food Industries for July, says: "Dehydrated vegetable powders and flakes are manufactured by the California Vegetable Products Co., of Burbank, Calif. The flaked products are used mostly for food, and sold to restaurants, cafeterias, and packing houses. In addition to these three sources of distribution, the powdered dehydrated manufactures have a flourishing sale among pharmaceutical supply firms, which use them in medicinal or corrective preparations of various kinds. The factory products are sold into trade channels as follows: for flavoring, 65 per cent; as vegetables, 25 per cent; pharmaceutical, 10 per cent. The food industries, therefore, absorb 90 per cent of the concern's output valued at approximately \$350,000 annually.... San Fernando Valley is the truck and dairy hinterland of Los Angeles. About 12 miles wide and 40 long, it is extensively and intensively cultivated to the crops necessary for cattle feed and to the fresh vegetables always in demand on the retail tables of the fresh stuffs markets of the California metropolis. All green vegetables are trucked direct from farm to factory, where they are deposited at one of two traffic doors. Dehydrated products for delivery to destinations at places other than in the metropolitan Los Angeles district are shipped from the rail platform adjacent to the factory. Motor trucks commonly move the finished goods used in the Los Angeles district. Twenty-six different vegetables or allied green stuffs, in addition to kelp, are processed at this dehydrator. Kelp is dehydrated for its chemical properties only. Chief among the raw products purchased by the plant are asparagus, alfalfa, beets, beet leaves, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, garlic, kale, lettuce, mint, parsley, okra, onion, rhubarb, spinach, tomato, turnip, watercress, chili, and pimento. Of these chili, pimento, onions, garlic, and celery are powdered and sold for seasoning purposes. During the past twelve months the company has processed 280,000 lbs. of garlic, 1,100,000 lb. of onions, and 400,000 lb. of chili beans. An average of 3,500,000 lb. of raw vegetables are mechanically dehydrated in the plant annually. The value of the finished products is approximately \$350,000. Plant and machinery have a value of \$150,000. The processes used are highly mechanized, a factor making for economic operation.... No products are permitted to enter the process which would not be readily salable in a fresh state on the open market. Such raw materials as okra, garlic, parsley, mint, and alfalfa require no pre-processing. Mint is used chiefly by the trade for flavoring, while the alfalfa goes into pharmaceutical channels...."

Insect
Menace

Financial Chronicle for June 27 publishes a semihumorous article on "Our Enemies, the Insects." This says in part: "We honor the researches and researchers that show us the way to combat disease-carriers in the insectivora, but somehow we can not follow these persistent enemies to the end of the world. Authorities tell us that these insects have existed on earth for 50,000,000 years, while we ourselves have lived and labored not more than 500,000 years. We are but children in age compared to the insects which seem to have no respect for our science, letters and art, for our governments, economics and politics, for our social schemes, community chests, and labor insurance.

These myriad kinds of insects, bent upon devouring us, without conscience and perhaps without consciousness, do not fight in the open, but would starve us by insidious attacks upon vegetation and animal life, and only occasionally attack us in our proper persons. They are no respecters of time, place or condition. And even in the World War, when we were intent on making democracy safe and sound, they stole into our trenches and harassed us unconscionably when we were firing big guns, throwing out exploding bombs, and otherwise killing foemen worthy of our steel by wholesale. If they had consciences like ourselves we might blame them more!...Come to think of it seriously, we must protest against these profound prophecies of science. Mundane 'depressions' are enough. These long-shot disasters are, too, too imaginative. Mathematical astronomy applied to an 'expanding,' 'exploding,' 'receding' and 'renewing' universe is too much for us. We prefer the cold verities of stocks and bonds, and even these are oft-times harrowing enough. To be told how in a few thousands of years we shall all be extinguished by red ants, black cockroaches, clear-water animalculae, and the like, is too much for our fastidious tastes, let alone our pride of achievement. ...We have reduced matter to mere force. We are gathering the electrons together even as a hen gathereth her chickens; we have looked into the recesses of the atom and found power enough, if let loose suddenly, to shatter the globe; we have practically resolved all things into nothingness save mind--though we have none too much of that left--why should we be afraid of bugs, beetles, flies, whether Mediterranean or Japanese? We have still the Government--ready and willing to spend millions to hunt out the invaders in their bosky retreats. Even thus, we want a few earthworms and grasshoppers left for fishing bait. The female mosquito, or is it the male, may carry the germs of yellow fever, but we are fast drying up the swamps, and one medical discovery like this is more powerful than tons of stinging insects, if it is a medical rather than the plain physical that 'cleanliness is next to godliness.' We refuse to be stampeded into the doldrums by these malign prophecies...."

Rural Education

A Los Angeles dispatch to the press of July 3 says: "Danger of the creation of a peasant class in this country and the 'defeat of the ideals upon which our Government was founded' was pictured July 2 by Governor George H. Dern of Utah in an address before thousands of teachers from all parts of the country at the general session of the National Education Association. 'The farmers of the United States have just cause for complaint,' he said, and went on: 'Their foreign market is practically gone and the home market is not sufficient to absorb their production, if on top of this, country people can not give their children a satisfactory education to fit them for competition with city-bred children, life on the farm will become so undesirable that after a while only the stupid will be left. We shall then have accomplished the calamitous job of making the American farmer a peasant. And the man with the hoe is not much of a help to business. Agriculture still is America's greatest industry. It employs more persons than the next five largest industries combined, and its invested capital likewise exceeds that of the next five. The census shows that 36 per cent of our population is in rural territory, hence rural education is one-third of the Nation's educational task. That the schools which train the boys and

girls of this paramount branch of the country's population and wealth should be made secondary to the city schools is an anomalous situation. Not only is it wrong in principle, but it is poor business....' Governor Dern's speech came as the climax of a day in which a national crusade was started to turn the little red schoolhouse into a modern educational center. At the call of William J. Cooper, Federal Commissioner of Education, the 20,000 educators attending the convention gave their sixth day, in cooperation with the national congress of parents and teachers, to a first national conference on rural education....

"The little red schoolhouse," said Mrs. Charles W. Sewell, director of home and community work of the American Farm Bureau Federation, 'has long been the symbol of all that we hold sacred in our national ideals of education. But while the Nation has progressed materially, the red schoolhouse has fallen further and further behind in this much-vaunted progress.' There is not much difference between the quality of the teaching in the rural school of the present and that pictured in the Hoosier schoolmaster,' she declared. 'There are still 161,000 one-room and 20,000 two-room rural schools, while the average school term is about one and a half months shorter than in urban districts. Fifteen States having the highest percentage of child labor employed in agriculture are the States with the highest percentage of non-attendance at school.'...."

Southern

Farm Movement

Manufacturers Record for July 2 says: "A back-to-the-land movement has developed in the South and Southwest. This swing from urban to rural life discloses a silver lining to the economic cloud. As the movement gains momentum it will have a far-reaching effect toward better equalization of factory output to demand. Thousands of urban producers, transformed temporarily into mere consumers through lack of employment may again become producers of essentials to supply their immediate needs. On the farm they are assured of shelter and food, thus relieving in proportionate measure the burden placed upon relief organizations in the cities. Prospects now point to an adjustment which should prove of great economic value. In gathering evidence of this farm trend the Manufacturers Record has received from various sources and sections of the South facts of unmistakable significance in their bearing on the present situation and their future influence on business revival....The trend to the farm may be attributed in the main to three factors: First, farm land values now have reached a level attractive to purchasers, and money to finance such purchases is plentiful; second, farming is being placed more generally on a business basis, with prospects of satisfactory profit; third, the vicissitudes of urban life with the uncertain employment conditions have convinced many people that the normally regular food supply and economic independence of the farmer are to be preferred...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 3.--Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 69 to 72¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 55 to 57¢ (new); Kansas City 47½ (new); No.2 hard winter Kansas City 47½ to 48¢ (new); No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 51½ to 52¢; Kansas City 51 to 52¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 58½ to 59¢; Minneapolis 54½ to 55¢; St. Louis 58½ to 59¢; Kansas City 55 to 56¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 27½ to 27½¢; Minneapolis 23 5/8 to 24 5/8¢; St. Louis 28½¢; Kansas City 28 to 28½¢.

Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; vealers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$6.75; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.50 to \$7.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.85 to \$7.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.85 to \$7.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.60 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.50 in the East and Middle West. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions brought \$1.40-\$1.75 per standard crates and 50-pound sacks in city markets. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes \$3-\$3.50 per six-basket crate in terminal markets. North Carolina Early Rose \$2.75-\$3.50 in New York City. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$315-\$430 bulk per car on auction sales in New York City; \$125-\$275 f.o.b. southern Georgia points. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-\$2.25 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers; Perfectos 75¢-80¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Arizona Salmon Tints \$1.25-\$2.50 in city markets; mostly 85¢ f.o.b. for Hales Best.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 31 points to 9.71¢ per lb. On the same date last year the price stood at 12.49¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 34 points to 10.17¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 33 points to 10.16.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24½¢; 91 score, 24½¢; 90 score, 24¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Singles: Daisies, 14½ to 14½¢; Young Americas, 14½ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 5

Section 1

July 7, 1931.

HOOVER PLAN ACCEPTED

The press to-day states that announcement that his proposal for a year's holiday in the payments of intergovernmental debts and reparations had been accepted in principle by all the nations involved was made by President Hoover yesterday afternoon.

FARM BOARD WHEAT POLICY

The Federal Farm Board yesterday again declined to modify its wheat price stabilization policy and keep its 1930 crop holdings from the market until the price rises to 85 cents a bushel, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The board's decision, made known after a conference with President Hoover, is to market not more than 5,000,000 bushels monthly if this can be done without unduly depressing prices. ..."

TORONTO WHEAT OFFICE CLOSED

A Toronto dispatch to-day states that the Toronto office of the Canadian Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., is to be closed on instructions from the Winnipeg head office. The report says: "No special significance attaches to the decision, it is stated, other than that the move is in alignment with and a furtherance of the policy of the wheat pool in relation to closing out most of its branch offices east of the head of the lakes. The Paris and London offices were ordered closed some months ago when John I. McFarland assumed the sales managership of the central selling agency at Winnipeg."

BUSINESS FORECAST

Business in the United States now is in the condition which usually precedes a general improvement, according to 155 editors of business papers, whose judgment is combined in the eighth semiannual survey of the business outlook, released for publication in New York to-day by Stanley A. Dennis, president of the National Conference of Business Paper Editors. A press report says: "As members of the National Conference and of the Associated Business Papers, these 155 editors of technical, trade, service and professional papers find that resistance to the downward trend is holding prices at the present level and that there has already been an upturn in production and distribution in certain fields, although there has been little or no profit at present prices. With goods moving, and the inventories of raw materials and finished products now liquidated, the editors say that replacement buying can not much longer be delayed. They find the tone of the market improved generally. The fields already reporting an upturn are: The automotive equipment and parts section of the automobile industry, chemicals, machine tools, electric power production, textiles, commercial bakeries, furniture manufacturing, construction, meat packing, shoe retailing and radio broadcasting...."

CITY POPULATIONS

A London dispatch to-day states that preliminary census figures for 1931, published yesterday, give Greater London a population of 8,202,818. Greater New York, according to recent figures, has 6,981,927.

Section 2

Back to Farm
Movement

An editorial in Ontario Farmer for July says: "It is not so long ago that statements to the effect that agriculture was the basic industry of the country and the surest means of a livelihood, brought a supercilious smile from the industrial worker....Yet in the past six months many thousands of workers from cities in this country and in the United States, who were born on the farm or have had farm experience, have been seeking a means of establishing themselves on the land where they could make a living, at least, for themselves and their families. Several agricultural representatives in Ontario have reported to us that not for years has there been such a demand for farms to rent. One county where land values are high and where a few years ago there were a number of farms standing vacant or leased to neighbors, to-day has every available farm taken up with many applicants having to be turned away because there are no more farms available. Nothing has so well demonstrated that as a get rich quick proposition, when prosperity seems to be floating in the air, the farm has little to offer but that as a permanent home and sure means of making a living it is by far the most dependable field of activity there is...."

Farm Housing
in Arkansas

Deane G. Carter, College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, contributes a study of farm housing in Arkansas to Journal of Home Economics for July. This says in part: "...The better homes are partially equipped with labor-saving and convenience facilities. In general, however, provision for sewage disposal, safe running water supply, and power appliances represent a major problem. The average age of the houses is 22 years, with a probable new construction of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total each year. The average length of residence in one house is 13 years. Tenant families change each three years, on the average. Owner homes are occupied by three or more families during the useful life of the house. The floor area of the farmhouses averages 1,169.74 square feet, or 250 square feet less than typical commercial plans. One-fifth are obviously inadequate in size. The majority of the houses have four, five, or six rooms each, with 5.35 rooms as the average. This is approximately one room per person, but there is no correlation between the size of the house and the size of the family. Sleeping-room space is insufficient. In over a quarter of the cases, the living room was counted as a sleeping room; and nearly one-third of the families had less than one sleeping room for each two persons. In the study of the basic factors in farm home planning, it was recognized that in the plan and design of the rural home there are a number of limitations which must be observed in addition to the architectural and construction features. Rural home planning probably differs from urban not so much in matters of equipment or quality as in the necessity for adherence to these specifically rural limitations or conditions...."

Food Value
Advertising

Food Industries for July says: "Production of foods with improved dietetic qualities of one kind or another is unquestionably meritorious. Blatant use of such dietetic advantages as the preeminent factor in sales appeal, however, is a dangerous business that may easily defeat its own ends. Probably there is no foodstuff in common use to-day for which, by careful choice of wording, some dietetic advantage can

not be featured. Page after page of bold type tells us that the chief virtue of a candy is its quick energy value, the chief value of a bread its added vitamin D, chief virtue of fish its iodine, chief virtue of a canned product its vitamin content, chief virtue of macaroni its 'energy trio,' chief virtue of a cereal its 'vegetable effect.' Now all of these statements may be perfectly true, but when shouted from the same platform, truth, half-truth, and unfounded exaggeration are likely to slip into the same category in the mind of the consumer. Already, competition has forced certain advertising of this type nearer and nearer the boundary line between legitimate claims and pseudomedicinal deception. The committee on foods of the American Medical Association, by giving its indorsement to products whose quality and advertising claims it considers satisfactory, is now undertaking to separate the sheep from the goats. Of 500 foods submitted, but 75 have been accepted. Other manufacturers are said to be planning radical changes in formulas, trade names, and advertising practices to gain this approval. True 'health-food' advertising unquestionably is better than false 'health-food' advertising, and to that extent the seal of approval of the committee will serve a useful purpose. There is no reason to admit, however, that eating has yet been reduced to a subdivision of medical science. Originally, indorsement by the Medical Association's committee was intended only for foods having special dietetic properties. The surprising part of the matter is that food manufacturers generally, by stressing health claims for ordinary foods, are building it into a virtual board of censorship for foods of all kinds. If the public chooses to accept this seal of approval as the criterion for food purchases in general, manufacturers will have taken to themselves a regulatory power which, acting through the medium of public opinion, may be far more strict than the staunchest supporter of the Food and Drug Administration ever desired...."

Locusts in East Africa The African World for June 20 says: "After many anxious weeks, brighter reports have been issued by the Kenya Government on the locust situation. It is estimated that at least 7,000,000 acres in the western areas of Kenya have been invaded from Uganda and 85,000 square miles infested in Tanganyika. In the European settled area around Kisumu it is estimated that four-fifths of the cereal crops have been damaged, and the Trans Nzoia maize crops have also been affected. The largest loss in native areas was in Southern Kavirondo, where the food-stuff cereal known as wimbi was totally destroyed. The Kenya Government estimates that there is sufficient food in the country to meet a possible famine, if there is no further heavy invasion. A statement of the government's policy on the subject is expected in the legislature on Tuesday. Experience has encouraged the opinion that East Africa requires a pool of her material and financial resources, with a central organization and a good intelligence system, to meet future locust measures. On this occasion there has been bitter criticism of government inactivity in Uganda, where the original swarms laid their eggs in large numbers. Eventually the Uganda Chamber of Commerce telegraphed to the Secretary of State complaining of the government's inadequate measures."

Meat Consumption

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for June 27 says: "Approximately two-thirds of Nebraska's farm income is derived from the livestock industry. Nearly 30 per cent of the State's farm income comes from the beef cattle industry alone. Nebraska is naturally a livestock State. The sand hills region can not be excelled for the production of cattle. Crops suitable for livestock feed are produced in great abundance in other parts of the State. As time goes on the production and feeding of livestock will be responsible for a greater share of the farm income....Nebraska's resourceful stockmen have faced depressions before and know what hard times are. Cattle prices are now the lowest they have been for many years and the producer of livestock is again face to face with a crisis. He is meeting the situation with courage. However, he feels that there is too much difference between the price he receives for his product and that paid by the consumer. This he thinks is responsible to a large measure for the lack of consumption. Where the blame lies of course is difficult to say but there is no question but that the retail price of meat is in many instances way out of line with the wholesale price. The producer of livestock is doing his best to encourage the greater use of meat. Through the National Livestock and Meat Board, an organization supported largely by funds subscribed by the producer himself, he is seeking to encourage the greater use of meat. By changing his methods of management and production he is trying to produce a carcass that meets the demands of the modern housewife. This campaign for the greater use of meat as a food should have the support of everyone."

Poe on Rural Education

A Los Angeles dispatch July 3 states that at the first national conference on rural education there July 2 Clarence Poe, president of the Progressive Farmer and Southern Ruralist, said: "The school of tomorrow, I believe, will be, in a very real sense, the capital of a community republic. It will be in use twelve months in the year by all the people. Vocational training and club work for boys and girls will, of course, always be a major concern. Nature study will be a delight. There farmers will find help not only in the production of better crops and better livestock, but will constantly meet there to effectuate rural cooperation. There will be lectures and musicals and debates and club meetings. On the beautiful lawns of such a school and on the community playground for baseball, basketball, tennis, and so forth, people will gather weekly, if not daily, for the purposes of recreation. Moreover, the school as the community capital will be dignified and beautified as other capitals are, and men will leave money for that purpose."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 6.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.75; vealers, good and choice \$6 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.60 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$6.65 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$7.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 66¢ to 69¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 56¢ to 56½¢ (new); St. Louis 53½¢ to 54½¢ (new); No.2 hard winter, Chicago 56¢ to 56½¢ (new); Kansas City 47¢ to 47½¢ (new); No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 58½¢; Minneapolis 51½ to 52½¢; Kansas City 51¢ to 52¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 59½¢ to 59¾¢; Minneapolis 55½ to 56½¢; St. Louis 59¢; Kansas City 54½¢ to 55½¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 27½¢; Minneapolis 23½¢ to 24½¢; Kansas City 28¢ to 28½¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.50 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75-\$1.85 Eastern Shore points. Arkansas and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.70-\$1.80 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. California and Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-\$2.50 per standard 45's in city markets; Perfectos 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia Yellow Bermuda onions \$1-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.75-\$3.50 per six-basket carrier in the East; and Hileys \$4-\$4.25 in New York City. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$290-\$425 bulk per car in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 19 points to 9.52¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 12.23¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 20 points to 9.97¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 21 points to 9.95¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24½¢; 91 score, 24¼¢; 90 score, 23¾¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14½ to 14¾¢; Young Americas, 14½ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 6

Section 1

July 8, 1931.

GERMAN FINANCES

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "Germany's united forces of finance and industry, represented by 1,000 of the largest banks and industrial concerns of the country, last night made public their readiness to stand or fall together as guarantors of German credit abroad. Their announcement was made through Dr. Hans Luther, president of the Reichsbank. The banks and industries which are throwing their united weight behind the move to make President Hoover's plan quickly effective include the German dye trust, German potash syndicate, the great Siemens and Aeg electrical concerns, the North German Lloyd and Hamburg-American steamship lines and all the larger German banks. Expressed in the simplest terms, the associated German industries are depositing with the German Gold Discount Bank their note for \$125,000,000. This credit may be used as a guarantee when and as necessary for commercial loans to Germany....The chief purpose of the syndicated guarantee is to restore confidence abroad in Germany's ability to come back financially and industrially now that President Hoover's plan is assured...."

WHEAT INFORMATION

A London dispatch to-day states that Canada, Australia, Soviet Russia, Hungary and the United States are represented on a special subcommittee formed yesterday by the standing committee of the conference of wheat-exporting nations. The report says: "The subcommittee will consider means of establishing the international clearing house for wheat information recommended by the international wheat conference in May, reporting to the standing committee to-day."

CANADA ASKED TO BUY GRAIN

An Ottawa dispatch to-day says: "The Saskatchewan wheat pool delegates yesterday acted to urge the government to make provision for the purchase and retention of all grain in the dried out areas of Saskatchewan until feed and seed requirements can be assured. They asserted there would be a shortage of seed grain in the dry areas as the result of crop failures this season and to meet the situation movement of grain from the districts should be halted at once."

LATIN-AMERICAN SURPLUSES

The problem of overproduction in several basic industries of the American republics will be discussed at a plenary session of the Fourth Pan American Commercial Conference, which will meet in Washington in October, the Pan American Union announced July 7, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Recent action in the nitrate, sugar and coffee industries toward stabilization through international agreements lend particular importance to the discussions, which will bring together business leaders from the United States and the Latin-American nations...."

RUSSIAN POLICIES

A Moscow dispatch says: "Joseph Stalin's speech promulgating a 'new economic policy' for Soviet Russia, permitting an 'unequal wage' and removing restrictions on the intelligentsia, is having the force of an electric stimulus throughout the country...."

Section 2

Foot and Mouth in Britain and Ireland

An editorial in The Scottish Farmer for June 27 says: "The outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease reported in Lancashire and Westmorland on Wednesday last week were the forerunners in the most serious visitation of the disease suffered by Great Britain for a considerable period. The one redeeming feature--if such there can be where foot-and-mouth disease is concerned--is that the origin is known. Many outbreaks in recent years have been without apparent cause, and great difficulty has often been experienced in tracing their origin. But there is no doubt on this occasion. The disease came from Ireland. In every case the animals found to be affected were recently imported from Ireland or had been in contact with Irish cattle. The disease has been found among cattle that came to Holyhead from Dublin on 11th June, and among cattle from Northern Ireland landed at Heysham (Lancashire) and at Ayr on the same date. The first outbreak in Great Britain, however, was not discovered until 17th June; and the Ministry of Agriculture promptly put an embargo on the importation of all Irish cattle. But by that time the animals had traveled far from the ports of landing and had passed through several markets, and when reports from many districts showed how widespread the outbreak might be, the Ministry on 19th June took the more drastic action of imposing 'standstill' regulations on the whole of Great Britain, in order, as the Minister of Agriculture told the House of Commons on Monday, 'to get ahead of the outbreak rather than to follow up the disease.'....Irish cattle, which are now known to have carried foot-and-mouth disease infection were landed at three British ports on 11th June and were distributed throughout the country. Disease was found among them six days later....Since disease was found to exist in Co. Down the authorities there have been very active. No fewer than ten cases were discovered by Saturday night, and between 300 and 400 cattle and sheep slaughtered, while movements of livestock were restricted throughout the county; and on Monday one of the Ulster M.P.'s felt justified in asking in the House of Commons if the Minister of Agriculture would now permit the importation of cattle from the other five counties in Northern Ireland. The Minister's reply was in the negative. Up till Monday morning there had been 33 cases of disease spread over nine counties in Scotland and England...."

Franklin Roosevelt on Local Government

A Charlottesville, Va., dispatch July 7 states that in two addresses delivered July 6 before the University of Virginia's Institute of Public Affairs, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor of New York, called upon the people of the country to rise to the responsibility resting upon them to work out for themselves the problems involved in remolding the forms of government devised by the founding fathers, according to their own excellent and flexible plan, in order to make it more serviceable to all the people and more responsive to their present needs. The report says: "In his speech last night on the 'Excessive Cost of Local Government,' he told how a citizen of New York might live under 'ten layers' of government, all of which levied taxes on this 'ten-layer' citizen, and he attributed this to the survival of outworn forms established in the 'ox-cart age' of the seventeenth century. With more than half of the country's annual tax burden of \$12,000,000,000 being the cost of local government, he said, the only hope for lower taxes or less rapid increase lay in a reduction and simplification of local government and a reallocation of its functions....He urged the need of nation-wide

State and regional planning to deal with the problems presented by the shift of the population from the rural districts, in the interests alike of agriculture, of industry, and of the people themselves, declaring the task to be one 'of such interest that young people to-day seem to me to have the greatest chance that any generation ever had.' In every locality, community, county and State, he said, 'we have an opportunity to do what is not merely a good thing to do, but what is a common sense thing for the generation that is coming after us.' Speaking as one farmer to another, he told of the plans now being worked out in various States to form groups of 'rural industrialists' or 'factory farmers' who can be kept on the land by opening up small factories for their industrial employment for cash wages in winter, and in the summer 'after the hay is in and before the corn ripens.'..."

New York
Labeling
Law

A Richmond, Va., dispatch July 6 says: "J. H. Meek, director of the Virginia Division of Markets, said July 5 that the new grading law of the State of New York, giving the commissioner of agriculture and markets authority to forbid the sale of agricultural products labeled in such a manner to be false or misleading in any particular as to grade should be called to the attention of Virginia farmers. The law also forbids selling or offering for sale agricultural products in such a manner that the face or shown surface are not the average of the contents. Mr. Meek said that since the law applies to all farm products sold in New York State no matter where the shipment originated, Virginia products are subject to the requirements of the law. The law, passed by the last New York Legislature, became effective July 1."

Wheat and
Tractors

Avis D. Carlson, writing under the title "The Wheat Farmer's Dilemma" in Harpers for July, says: "...If the machines are saving the bodies of to-day's wheat-grower and his wife, they are landing him squarely in a predicament which the former generation of growers did not have to face. When I go to the annual farm power-machine show at Wichita I have an odd feeling of awe and terror among those muttering giants....In the first place that machinery and the science which made it possible are responsible for the remarkable increase in wheat production. At the risk of boring the readers who know their wheat, I shall have to say a few words for the sake of those not so familiar with it. Under scientific cultivation it now grows best in a semiarid region, formerly fit only for grazing. In our part of the world it is planted in the early fall and harvested in July. Too much rain at any time during those nine long months is disastrous. In the spring it means too rank a growth of the stalks. In May and early June it means black rust, that most dreaded of all evils save hail. And, finally, heavy rain during the harvest weeks means that the stalks 'go down'---break or bend to the ground under their burden of ripe grain. And then it can be harvested only with exceeding difficulty, if at all. But as with all other plant life, some soil moisture is necessary. That is where the machines enter the picture. A rain comes. Not much of a rain, perhaps only a half inch. Within a week or two the blazing midsummer sun will have baked it entirely out of the soil, and the farmer must wait for another rain. It is his business to conserve that moisture by breaking up the surface crust that thickens from hour to hour. He must hurry, for he knows from bitter experience that another rain may

not be forthcoming for a long time. In his race with wind and sun a tractor is a far better running-mate than mules. With it he can use more and bigger plows, make them bite deeper into the soil, drive them faster and more continuously, and maintain the race for twenty-four hours a day. Moreover, the man on the tractor has at his disposal a half dozen or so different types of moisture-conserving cultivators which the man behind mules did not have. That is why the world no longer rings with tales of Kansas drought. That is why last year, when all other farmers watched their crops burn up, the wheat-grower harvested a bumper yield....The big yields of the last few years are no casual phenomenon. They are going to continue. The only time when we shall not have them will be the few years when the rainfall is too heavy all over the country. Whatever else nature does to please an important school of farm economists by cutting the wheat production is either only on a local scale, and so does not greatly affect the total yield, or will eventually come under the control of the noisy tractors jolting up and down the wheat lands of the world. In the same manner the harvester-thresher is making for increased and surer production...."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The Ice Cream Review for July says: "The Federal Pure Food Law celebrated its silver anniversary on June 30. Those old enough to remember conditions prior to the enactment of the law can best appreciate what its enforcement has accomplish^{ed} for the food industry. True, there were food laws in effect in some of the States, but not until the enactment of the Federal law did we see an awakened public consciousness of the bad practices in vogue. The ice cream industry has profited along with other branches of the food industry. After all there are just two classes of ice cream manufacturers, i.e., those who support and obey pure food law standards and requirements, and those who do not."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 7.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; vealers, good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.60 to \$7.20; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$6.60 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7 to \$7.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 67¢ to 70¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 54¢ to 54½¢; Kansas City 48½¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 55½¢; Kansas City 46½¢ to 46¾¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 60¼¢; Minneapolis 52¢ to 53¢; Kansas City 51¢ to 52¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 60¾¢; Minneapolis 56½¢ to 57½¢; Kansas City 54¢ to 55½¢; No.3 white oats, Minneapolis 24¢ to 25¢; Kansas City 28¢ to 28½¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes brought \$1.75-\$2.75 per stave barrel in the East; \$1.80-\$1.90 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$2-\$2.50 in eastern cities. Arkansas and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.50-\$1.65 per 100 pounds in Cincinnati. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2-\$2.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; few Perfectos \$1 f.o.b. Brawley. Arizona Salmon Tints \$2.25-\$2.75 in terminal markets with Hales Best 85¢-\$1 f.o.b. Phoenix and Perfectos \$1.25. Virginia Yellow Bermuda onions \$1 per bushel hamper in New York City. Texas and California stock \$1.15-\$1.65 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in consuming centers. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3.25 per six-basket carrier in the East. Georgia Hileys \$3.75-\$4 in New York City with f.o.b. sales \$2.75 at Macon. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$275-\$425 bulk per car auction sales in New York City; \$125-\$300 f.o.b. Georgia points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 16 points to 9.36¢ per pound. On the corresponding day last season the price was 12.13¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 21 points to 9.76¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 9.77¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24½¢; 91 score, 24¼¢; 90 score, 23¾¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14¼¢ to 14¾¢; Young Americas, 14½¢ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 7

Section 1

July 9, 1931.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The press to-day says: "While Germany was acting to straighten out its disordered finances yesterday, London sent out invitations for a Young Plan parley on July 17, to which the United States will send an observer.

"In Paris the German Ambassador assured Premier Laval his country would not use the reparations money for arms.

"Simultaneously with Secretary Stimson's arrival in Rome, it is announced that Italy intends to suggest an arms truce for one year. At the same time news was received that Paris was about to make a proposal regarding the Franco-Italian naval controversy."

AMERICAN CATTLE- JUDGING TEAM WINS

A Warwick, Eng., dispatch to-day states that the American cattle-judging team won the competition at the Royal Society's show yesterday, scoring 1,917 points out of a possible 2,160. Northern Ireland won second place with 1,812 points, and England third with 1,779. The Baltimore Sun to-day says: "Composed of three Maryland boys, the cattle-judging team was the fourth one from this State to represent the United States in contests abroad, and was the third to win....Members of the team are: William Chilcoat, of Sparks, Baltimore County, and a graduate of the high school there last year; James Johnston, of McDonogh, Baltimore County, a student at McDonogh School; Charles Clark, Belair, Harford County, freshman at Western Maryland College. Harold M. Carroll, county agent of Harford County, and Howard C. Barker, specialist in dairying at the Extension Service, University of Maryland, coached the team and accompanied the boys abroad....The team won the right to represent this country in the international contest at the national dairy exposition in St. Louis last December, when 4-H Club groups from twenty-eight States competed for the honor. Maryland won by a narrow margin."

CANADIAN

WHEAT POOLS

A Winnipeg dispatch to-day says: "The wheat pools of Western Canada, marketing agencies for 147,000 farmer-members, must find aid or see the death of the cooperative system, according to representations made to Federal and Provincial Governments by pool executives. They are faced with liabilities to the governments and banks of \$25,000,000 and with the prospect of a light crop. A possible solution is seen by the executives in the reorganization of the Manitoba pool. A change in contract permits members to sell grain through voluntary pooling or on the open market, a drastic change in policy. It is believed that the same system will be put into effect by Saskatchewan and Alberta. The troubles of the pools are a result of the world depression which has cut off foreign markets."

RUSSIA'S NEW PLAN

A Moscow dispatch to-day says: "What is called 'Stalin's New Economic Policy' occupied the front pages of the most important newspapers, such as Pravda and Izvestia, yesterday. It virtually sanctions inequality of wages and establishes individual responsibility of directors of industry and workers, and readmits old engineers of the old regime into industry...."

Section 2

Automobile
Figures

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for July 8 says: "Department of Commerce's census of world registration of automobiles as of January 1, 1931, shows 35,805,632 vehicles compared with 35,127,398 in 1930, 32,028,584 in 1929 and 29,687,599 in 1928. While the 1931 census shows the effect of depression, it also shows that the automobile is gaining ground and that the saturation point for automobiles is still in the future. World production of automobiles in 1930 aggregated 4,109,231; deducting therefrom the 678,234 increase in registrations of the past year would leave 3,430,997 automobiles that must have been taken to replace an equal number of scrapped machines. This shows that the replacement market alone would be of great importance without any further growth; however, there is no standing still in the world wide use of the automobile. Even in the United States, where there are more automobiles than in all the rest of the world, the distribution in 1930 became one machine to 4.59 persons compared with 4.87 the year before. Outside the United States the average ownership on January 1, 1931, was one to every 200 persons against one to 216 persons in 1930, which certainly means a good rate of increase when the entire world population is considered. The less developed regions of the world are beginning to open up to the march of the automobile...."

Havana Milk
Conditions

A Havana dispatch to the press of July 8 states that infant mortality increased greatly in Havana in June, according to published statistics. The report says: "This is attributed to the inferior grade of milk sold at present in Havana, allegedly due to relaxed vigilance on the part of the Health Department. It is reported that seventy-two infants died in June as a direct result of this inferior milk, as against a record of forty-seven in June, 1930. The history of the sale of milk in Havana is more or less the story of a struggle to educate the masses to the point of appreciating sanitary milk and the dealers to improve methods of handling. The milk industry has been largely developed within the last five or six years. Previous to that fresh milk was exceedingly scarce in Havana and, in fact, in all towns of the republic.... In 1928 infant mortality was 18.69 per 1,000 of population. In 1929 milk regulations were passed by the government, which with strict enforcement would have revolutionized the milk industry, but they have never been properly enforced. They were patterned after those adopted by Chicago in 1916, which solved the problem of that city. But while the regulations of Chicago stipulated that only pasteurized and certified milk could be sold, the Cuban law permits the sale of crude milk, and herein lies the stumbling block rigid enforcement. However, some progress was made and at the beginning of 1931 infant mortality had dropped to 15.61. The present condition is said to be due to clandestine dealers. It is estimated there are some 2,000 of them, bringing crude milk into Havana, underselling and demoralizing the milk market...."

Locusts in
Africa

Science for July 3 says: "The Kenya Agricultural Department reports that locusts are hatching over an area of seven million acres in the Kenya district of East Africa alone. In addition to this the laying of locust eggs is proceeding over hundreds of miles of dense tropical vegetation in Uganda. The town of Masindi was recently inundated by locusts, forcing all shops to close. In the Kenya district the Agricultural Department is effectively combating the locusts,

twelve hundred bags of poisoned bait being issued daily, while there are also spraying and trench trapping. In the Uganda district there is no adequate policy of destruction and great fears are expressed by the neighboring districts regarding the damage anticipated when the eggs mature."

Milk Protection

An editorial in The Southern Planter for July 1 says: "The refusal of the City Health Department of Norfolk, Virginia, to allow milk to be shipped into the city from beyond a 60-mile limit has been upheld by the court. The court took the position that it is the responsibility of the health department to keep the city's supply of milk safe, but Judge Hanckel declared in reference to the 60-mile ordinance 'it seems to me to be arbitrary and unreasonable and, therefore, invalid.' In other words, the court takes the position that the limit could be extended so long as safe milk can be brought into Norfolk, but he will not assume the responsibility of saying what the distance should be. There are, of course, two sides to this question....To produce safe milk requires rigid inspection of dairy herds, barns and the surroundings in which milk is produced, as well as pasteurization and the use of other modern methods. Certainly, there is a limit to the distance which the city health department can cover and properly inspect dairies at reasonable cost. The department can not afford to take any chances in this regard and should limit the distance within reason. If diseases develop due to the consumption of unsafe and undesirable milk the onus will be on the health department. Consumers and others very properly will hold it to strict account for such disasters. After all, the public demands safe milk and is willing to pay for it....It is the duty of a city health department to limit its milk shed to an area from which it can guarantee a safe supply of milk with reasonable inspection costs. The Norfolk Health Department has set its limits at 60 miles. The case has been decided in favor of the local dairymen and against the distributor who would bring in outside milk."

Science and Technology

"In an article on 'The Scientist and the Technologist in the Textile Industries,' published in the Journal of Textile Science, Prof. E. F. Barker discusses cooperation between men of science and technologists and problems of their training. Professor Barker points out that the technologist, or 'practical man,' as he is frequently described in the textile industries, has attained his results much more by judgment and less by rule of thumb or haphazard methods than the man of science frequently imagines....The training of the technologist in the best of our technical colleges has been based largely upon system and not mere synopsis, and upon basic inductive methods. The technologist thus chiefly needs the cultural scientific training, based upon the extensive outlook or extensive 'Science Discipline' suggested by Sir David Prain. The man of science, on the other hand, is essentially an analytical worker; and a fundamental defect of our present university training is that, while taught to appreciate facts, its graduates are frequently quite unable to assess values, especially human values. This defect has largely been responsible for the slightly contemptuous attitude towards industrial research once common in university circles, and makes the exclusion of the technologist from association with the man of science in the activities of the research associations catastrophic.

Probably nothing would more rapidly insure the provision of adequate support for such associations from the industries themselves than effective cooperation between the scientific worker and the technologist. Professor Barker urges that the man of science, having passed through the cultural scientific training, should proceed to the sterner discipline of an intensive training in which studying, as Sir David Prain suggests, 'everything of something' evolves scientific, mental, and material tools, and the capacity to use them intensively, by means of which he may draw from nature more of her riches for the service of mankind. The failure of scientific workers to attain greater success than they have hitherto attained is due to lack of appreciation of the problems which only broad co-ordinated enterprise can present for solution. ..." (Nature, June 20.)

Section 3Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The Journal of the American Medical Association for July 4 says: "A quarter of a century ago, on June 30, 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Food and Drugs Act specifically designated 'for preventing the manufacture, sale, or transportation of adulterated or misbranded or deleterious foods, drugs, medicines and liquors, and for regulating traffic therein, and for other purposes.' This Federal measure is popularly known as the Pure Food Law. It has had a wholesome effect that can scarcely be realized to-day by persons who are not familiar with the conditions that prevailed in the industries and marketing procedures at the beginning of the twentieth century. ...The American Medical Association, through the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry, has been a pioneer in its efforts to protect the medical profession and the public against fraud, undesirable secrecy and objectionable advertising in connection with proprietary medicinal articles. Its efforts have been greatly facilitated by the passage and enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act. More than 18,000 legal actions, taken under the law, have contributed to the satisfactory reformation of American manufacturing processes and sales methods. The governmental forces have tended to compel the use of truthful statements on labels and insure the purity of the contents of what were once mysterious packages. It may be questioned whether such enforcement--admittedly a safeguard to protect the consumer from economic fraud as well as from bodily harm--has been more effective for the public welfare than has the unremitting exposure of quackery in relation to the health of the people....The improvement in package and product in the case of drugs as well as foods has been noteworthy. The manufacturing trade itself is beginning to accept the advantage of decency in business...."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 8.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.25; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.75 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$7.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.15 to \$6.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.10; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 67 7/8¢ to 70 7/8¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 56 1/2¢ (new); St. Louis 53¢ to 53 1/2¢ (new); Kansas City 48¢ (new); No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 45 1/2¢ to 46 1/2¢ (new); No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 61 1/4¢; Minneapolis 52¢ to 53¢; Kansas City 51¢ to 52¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 60 1/2¢ to 60 3/4¢; Minneapolis 57¢ to 58¢; Kansas City 54¢ to 55¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 28¢; Minneapolis 25¢ to 25 1/2¢; Kansas City 28¢ to 28 1/2¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes brought \$1.75-\$2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.80-\$1.90 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri Cobblers \$1.25-\$1.40 sacked per 100 pounds in St. Louis with f.o.b. sales at Orrick \$1.50-\$1.65. California and Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged \$2-\$3 per standard crate of 45 melons in terminal markets; Perfectos \$1 f.o.b. Brawley and Hales Best 90¢-\$1 at Phoenix. Virginia Yellow onions 90¢-\$1.25 per bushel hamper in consuming centers. California Yellow Bermudas \$1.15-\$1.60 per standard crate and 50-pound sacks in city markets. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium sizes, closed at \$3.25-\$4.25 per six-basket crate in the East; 1/2 bushel baskets 75¢-\$1.10 f.o.b. Macon. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, ranged \$270-\$400 bulk per car for auction sales in New York City; 24-28 pound average \$100-\$200 f.o.b. southern Georgia points.

Average price Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 41 points to 8.95¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 12.20¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 37 points to 9.39¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 43 points to 9.34¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 25¢; 91 score, 24 1/2¢; 90 score, 24¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 1/4 to 14 3/4¢; Young Americas, 14 1/2 to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 8

Section 1

July 10, 1931.

GIBSON AS

DEBT OBSERVER

The press to-day states that President Hoover has selected his close friend and adviser, Hugh S. Gibson, Ambassador to Belgium, to serve as official observer for the United States on the exports committee to which further negotiations have been consigned. He will be assisted by Frederick Livesey, assistant economic advisor of the State Department, who is now on his way to London where the experts will meet next week. Livesey is an acknowledged authority on reparations and war debts.

GERMAN

FINANCES

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "The effect of the debt moratorium on German industry--always providing that nothing happens to shake foreign confidence once again--will be of twofold beneficial force. First, the return of vanished capital and the introduction of new foreign capital available for long-term loans will enable business to refund its short-term obligations into long-term loans. Thus industry will get into a position where its leaders can plan ahead and work methodically instead of scraping through with one short-term loan after another, always fearful that at the end of the month or quarter or half year, the loan will be called...."

COTTON POLICY

ASKED

Cotton traders have followed the course of wheat growers and dealers in petitioning for a definite Farm Board statement of policy on handling stabilization supplies during the new crop year, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Carl Williams, cotton member of the board, said yesterday the requests of the Savannah, Memphis and Little Rock cotton exchanges have been taken under advisement and a new policy may be forthcoming before July 31...."

GRAIN RATES

A Chicago dispatch July 9 says: "An order has been entered in the United States District Court of Chicago denying the application of the western roads for an interlocutory injunction against the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission reducing grain rates in the western district, and vacating and dissolving the temporary restraining order issued on May 7 last pending the decision on the application."

VIRGINIA APPLES

TO LONDON

A Winchester, Va., dispatch to-day says: "The first carload of 1931 apples to be shipped from the Winchester district for export is being forwarded from New York to-day on the steamer American Trader for London, Eng. The apples were consigned by the Sibert Fruit Corporation to Barney, Springer & Co., London. They were Yellow Transparents, 2 inches and up, and inspected and graded as U.S.No.1...The fruit leaving to-day for England was grown in orchards near Winchester, and was picked and packed this week in bushel baskets. They are summer varieties and therefore will not be in competition with late fall Australian and Tasmanian apples now being marketed in England."

Section 2

Arizona
Border
Quarantine

An editorial in California Cultivator for July 4 says: "The announcement that the Arizona agricultural and horticultural commission has decided to maintain the 13 highway and border quarantine stations now in operation will no doubt be welcome news to California growers as well as State and county quarantine officials. Just where the funds necessary to keep these stations in operation after July are coming from has not been announced; however, with a commission of his own choosing recommending that all 13 of the stations be kept open, Governor Hunt will no doubt find some means of securing the money with which to keep them going until the next session of the legislature. Although the cost of maintaining highway quarantine stations along the State's boundary lines may, in these times of depression, seem to be an unnecessary expense, Arizona will, like all other States, find it far cheaper in the long run to keep dangerous pests out, than to eradicate them once they have gained a foothold."

Cotton
Utiliza-
tion

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for July 4 says: "The consumption of cotton could be largely increased if the staple were used in the manufacture of various articles for which it is suitable, but which are now made of foreign fibers. Cotton makes better bags for many uses than does jute, and, when these bags have rendered a service as containers the cloth is yet available for many other purposes. The popularizing of cotton for wear would consume many thousands of additional bales, increasing the prosperity of mill towns and furnishing a more steady market for the farmers' product. There is a southern organization pledged to further the legitimate use of cotton and nearly every Southern State has an organized division of the National body. Texas recently completed its organization and fortunately selected J. E. McDonald, Commissioner of Agriculture, as its first president. Commissioner McDonald lost no time in making plans to do effective work in Texas and those associated with him expect some real developments. In addition to popularizing cotton to various uses with which the public is familiar, much research work will be done in the way of discovery of new uses. In this work the association will naturally cooperate with the Department of Agriculture at Washington where specialists have already obtained many important results...."

Farm Imple-
ment Trade

An editorial in Farm Implement News for June 25 says: "There is nothing quite so inspiring these days as to hear of the trade activity in some sections. Men who have recently come from the southern Illinois territory tributary to St. Louis branch houses say that binders and other machines are moving just like old times. Branch house and retail organizations are fairly humming....All along the Ohio River valley, somewhat similar conditions prevail, although varying of course in degree of activity in different communities. Not only have grain harvesting machines been moving actively, but hay machines have shared in the demand. Mowers, side rakes and loaders all are selling much more rapidly than most people even dared to hope a short time back. A somewhat astonishing demand has developed down in the Carolinas for small-size combines, for no one expected such a trade. Apparently owners of the larger and more prosperous farms have been watching the work of some of these machines the past season or so, and they liked it. With heavy

yards of oats to be harvested, there was a last minute rush for combines that took branch house organizations by surprise, for they were not prepared for it....Down through Kentucky and Tennessee where a year ago it looked as though such communities never could come back, there is also quite a high degree of trade activity. Combines are selling there primarily for harvesting lespedeza seed. The practice as reported is to seed lespedeza in oats, cut the oats high and then let the lespedeza mature. Some growers are reported to get from \$20 to \$60 an acre for their lespedeza seed, on top of the oat return. And they are buying the smaller size combines to handle the harvest. There does not seem to be much combine activity in the Southwest, but the demand for binders, particularly power binders, has been much more active from this region than was anticipated...."

Foot and Mouth in Britain

An editorial in The Field (London) for June 27 says: "When the Minister of Agriculture imposed a standstill order, prohibiting the movement of cattle, sheep and pigs throughout the country, it was evident that the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the North was regarded as very serious. Such a drastic step was justified because, to deal effectively with so infectious a disease it is absolutely necessary to check all movements at the first possible moment. Unfortunately, the Irish cattle affected had been widely distributed before disease was suspected, and there were many potential centers of infection. Prompt action by the Ministry's officers last week-end should allow the control of the situation to be gained with the least possible delay. This disaster has overcome livestock breeders at a most unfortunate time when final preparations were being made for exhibition at the 100th show of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Edinburgh this week, and the Royal Show at Warwick in the second week of July. It is too early to say yet whether it will be possible to retain the classes for cattle, sheep and pigs at the Royal Show, but in any case the display can not be fully representative of our leading herds and flocks....All the evidence points to Ireland as the culprit, since the first outbreaks occurred in animals recently imported. The question arises whether Ireland is taking proper precautions to eradicate foot and mouth disease and whether our regulations governing the importation of Irish stock are sufficiently stringent...This setback has come at a time when it seemed that the Ministry of Agriculture had really gained the upper hand in the constant war waged against foot and mouth disease. There is good reason to think that the embargo imposed on the importation of fresh meat from the Continent and the other preventive regulations were proving increasingly effective in maintaining our immunity. Now the problem of live cattle imports will have to be tackled afresh...."

Utah Eggs

An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for June 25 says: "Shipments of day-old eggs in carlots to New York by the Utah Poultry Producers' Cooperative Association, which started early in May, puts Pacific coast eggs in for stiffer competition than ever before; and in the opinion of E. J. Dixon, manager of the Pacific Cooperative Poultry producers, unless coast poultry men do everything in their power to improve the quality of the eggs they ship East, the handwriting is on the wall in large letters, 'U-T-A-H.' 'Utah,' he said, 'is a large State, populated by an

extremely progressive and industrious people. Poultrymen there have a successful, almost sensationally successful, cooperative egg and poultry association, which displays the finest type of cooperative unity and is managed with remarkable efficiency. Utah has shown more remarkable poultry development than any other State, and the industry there is capable of still further development. Packing plants of the association are located at points in Utah and Idaho that are but six or seven days by rail from New York City, as compared with 11 or 12 days from Seattle, Portland and San Francisco. Eggs of the same age shipped on the same day from Utah points and from Pacific coast points would arrive there five or six days apart, and adding to this that Utah eggs are but a day old when shipped gives them tremendous advantage over the ordinary pack shipped from the coast, where average age at time of shipment is about five days. Utah eggs are gathered in the morning and are delivered to association plants before 2 p.m., when a force of candlers starts grading, candling and packing. Shipment is made the following morning by 9:30. What are we going to do about it?' Dixon asks. 'There is little or nothing to be done about time of transit, but there can be and obviously must be something done about age of eggs shipped from the coast if they are to compete with Utah eggs. Members of coast associations must deliver fresher eggs. Coast eggs must be gathered oftener, delivered more frequently, and given better care between time of production and time of delivery.'..."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in California Cultivator for July 4 says: "The argument that because a pest of major importance, such as the Mediterranean fruit fly or the pink boll worm occasionally gets by the quarantine officials, it is useless to spend money trying to keep them out, is all wrong. We should rather be all the more vigilant in our watch for these pests to the end that it be less easy for others to gain admission. Also we should recognize that even under the most careful watch a pest will occasionally get by and therefore the work of our quarantine guardians occasionally should be checked by the State and county field inspectors to see that dangerous pests have not got by and to stamp out any that have before they become established. Florida's experience with the Mediterranean fruit fly and Arizona's pink boll worm infestation are two outstanding examples of what it costs to let a pest become well established before attempting eradication....These instances, however, should not lessen our support of quarantines but they should emphasize the importance and necessity of continuing such field inspections as have been carried on in California since the advent of the fruit fly infestation in Florida whereby the authorities sought to find and eradicate any infestations that might possibly gain admission, before they had become well established. In our opinion a continuation of this program will do much toward keeping out dangerous pests and is worth many times its cost."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 9.—Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$5.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$9.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.40; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$7 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7 to \$7.90; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 67¢ to 70¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 54 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 52¢ (now); Kansas City 48¢ to 49¢ (now); No.2 hard winter, Chicago 54¢ to 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 46¢ (now); No. 3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 58¢ to 59 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 54¢ to 55¢; St. Louis 59¢; Kansas City 53¢ to 55¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 28¢ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$3 per stave barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$1.90 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. A few Arkansas sacked Bliss Triumphs sold at \$2.25 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. Missouri sacked Cobblers \$1.40-\$1.50 in St. Louis; \$1.35-\$1.55 f.o.b. Orrick. Virginia Yellow onions 85¢-\$1.10 per bushel hamper in the East. Texas and California Yellow Bermudas \$1.25-\$1.75 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-\$3 per standard crate of 45 melons in terminal markets. Arizona Salmon Tints \$1.50-\$2.75 in city markets; Hales Best 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Phoenix. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes, \$3.75-\$5.25 per six-basket carrier in New York City; \$2.50 f.o.b. Macon.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 22 points to 8.73¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 12.58¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 22 points to 9.17¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 16 points to 9.18¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 9

Section 1

July 11, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT ON WHEAT SHORT SELLING

President Hoover yesterday issued a statement condemning some speculators, who, he said, purposed to drive commodity prices down by short selling, according to the press to-day.

The President said in part: "It has come to my knowledge that certain persons are selling short in our commodity markets, particularly in wheat. These transactions have been continuous over the past month. I do not refer to the ordinary hedging transactions, which are a sound part of our marketing system. I do not refer to the legitimate grain trade. I refer to a limited number of speculators. I am not expressing any views upon economics of short selling in normal times. But in these times this activity has a public interest. It has but one purpose, and that is to depress prices. It tends to destroy returning public confidence. The intent is to take a profit from the losses of other people. Even though the effect may be temporary, it deprives many farmers of their rightful income. If these gentlemen have that sense of patriotism which outruns immediate profit, and a desire to see the country recover, they will close up these transactions and desist from their manipulations. The confidence imposed upon me by law as a public official does not permit me to expose their names to the public. Otherwise I would do so."

GERMAN FOREIGN DEBT

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "The Hanseatic Commercial, Industrial and Shipping League published figures yesterday estimating Germany's total foreign debts at about \$6,400,000,000. Of this, it was estimated that \$2,700,000,000 was represented in short-term debts; \$2,207,000,000 in long-term obligations; \$952,000,000 in foreign holdings and \$476,000,000 in foreign-owned real estate.

"The German floating debt now stands at about \$450,000,000 and the government is making efforts to reduce it by about \$200,000,000."

DEBT PLAN BEGUN

A London dispatch to-day says: "President Hoover's plan for a year's suspension of payments of all war debts, including German reparations, went into effect yesterday, so far as the entire British Empire is concerned. Without awaiting the results of the international conference, which begins on July 17, for the consideration of details, the British Government for itself and in behalf of all Dominions has notified the President of the Bank for International Settlements that it will make no claim for its installments of either conditional or unconditional reparations due from Germany next Wednesday...."

NORWAY OCCUPIES GREENLAND TERRI- TORY

An Oslo dispatch to-day states that Norway has officially occupied that part of Eastern Greenland lying between Lat. 75 degrees 40 minutes N. and Lat. 71 degrees 30 minutes N. Denmark has claimed sovereignty over the land in question for many years. An expedition of Norwegian youths planted their flag on the contested territory and the Norwegian claim is based on their action, according to the report.

Section 2

Cooperation

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for July 4 says: "When the Federal Farm Board first started the program to organize the farmers by commodity groups, Farm and Ranch predicted that the time would come when the real value of organizations of that character would manifest itself through unity of action in other things than marketing. That time seems to be approaching. It begins to look as though cooperatives would cooperate.... When they succeed in doing this the agricultural industry and its related lines will have a power, politically and otherwise, that will be given recognition throughout the country. Naturally the first step in developing the cooperative spirit was along lines of marketing particular commodities. Cotton growers were brought together in one group, wheat growers in another, and livestock interests in several other distinct organizations. Each organization had troubles of its own, and still has, for that matter, and confined its efforts to increasing its own membership and to the marketing of its products. To-day there is a movement on the way which will greatly broaden the influence of organized farmers.... Thus far, however, the central idea is marketing and distribution. Grain growers will cooperate with cotton growers when opportunity permits; cotton growers will help grain growers and those engaged in livestock production. One organization will cooperate with all others...."

Texas Development

Manufacturers Record for July 9 says: "The determination of business Texas to encourage manufacturing in that State through Progressive Texans, Inc., is of more than State or sectional interest; it is of importance far outside the South. Locally, this encouragement indicates that Texas has developed its raw materials and agricultural production to a point at which it may devote more attention to manufacturing enterprise. Sectionally, this presages a volume and value of southern manufacturing production which will still further advance the industrial South. Nationally, it means a stimulation of business, not of detriment to any other section, but of benefit to all the country. The significance of this prospective impetus in all three phases becomes evident in a glance at figures for 1929, the latest available. Of 210,710 manufacturing establishments in the country, the South has 46,523, or about 22 per cent. The 5,187 manufacturing establishments in Texas are about 11 per cent of the South's total. Manufacturing products in the South, running to \$11,724,000,000 in value, are 16 per cent of the country's total, and the share of Texas, \$1,449,000,000, is about 12 per cent of the present quota for the South. In particular, the variety of Texas' natural products lends itself to versatility in manufacture. Textiles come first, in the State's opportunity to convert its cotton and wool into fabrics. Beyond this, many diversified lines already are in operation, disclosing a fine foundation on which the State can erect a great manufacturing structure. Alphabetically, the list starts at agricultural implements, runs through dairying, explosives, food processing, furs, glass, hardware, hats, lumber, meat packing, iron and steel and petroleum products, textiles and so on, to wirework and wooden goods...."

(Winnipeg)

Tree Nurseries An editorial in The Country Guide for July says: "There will in Canada be a very general feeling of satisfaction throughout the prairie provinces that the Dominion government has finally decided to continue the forestry stations at Indian Head and Sutherland and that they will be operated henceforth under the department of agriculture. It is quite understandable that the government, sorely pressed to make ends meet should economize rigidly. The proposal to abandon the tree nurseries probably resulted in considerable actual benefit by forcing a realization of the great usefulness of these nurseries in the past 30 years. Now that the future of the tree nurseries is assured, they should be made use of to even a greater degree than in the past. Tree planting around farmsteads can be carried on at a minimum of expense and with a maximum of beneficial results. It is an excellent hard times program."

**Watershed
Needs**

An editorial in California Cultivator for June 20 says: "There are two conditions that dry years always make more acute and which are not given much thought by the average farmer or many of our so-called agricultural economists excepting during such periods. First and perhaps most important of these, especially in the more arid regions, is the effect of dry years on our watersheds. Such years, especially where a number of them occur in succession, cause a drying up of the natural vegetation which in turn increases the fire hazard, thereby materially reducing the ability of such areas to absorb a maximum of moisture when wet seasons again occur as well as seriously adding to the erosion problem. The second condition which is always of major importance to our livestock people, is that of reduced forage for their cattle. This is fast becoming a serious problem because of the inability of many of our native grasses to perpetuate themselves especially in burned over or eroded areas. We are therefore faced with the situation of seeing greater proportions of our formerly well covered watersheds gradually become barren wastes with each succeeding series of dry years....This, in our opinion, is a most vital problem particularly in this southwestern area where rainfall is no longer sufficient to make ordinary reforestation practical and every effort should be made to find some solution for it. If suitable grasses exist in other parts of the world, we should lose no time in getting them established here and put a stop to the erosion problem before our watersheds become devoid of all soil."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 10

Section 1

July 13, 1931.

GERMAN FINANCES

A Berlin dispatch states that the long conference of the German Cabinet, begun at 11 a.m. yesterday in the hope of staving off a financial collapse in the country to-day, adjourned at 3.30 o'clock this morning without taking definite action. The report says: "Although drastic decrees aimed at forestalling the collapse of important banks in the country and halting the catastrophic demands for foreign currency had been prepared and were on the point of release last night, these moves were blocked at the last moment by legal objections and reported opposition from bankers....It was understood, however, that the Government would compel Germany's entire list of banks mutually to guarantee one another...."

FINANCIAL AID TO GERMANY

William R. Castle, jr., acting Secretary of State, yesterday issued the following statement to newspapers: "The heads of the principal European central banks, including the Bank of England and the Bank of France, are meeting tomorrow morning in Basle with the Bank for International Settlements. They will no doubt consider the German banking crisis. Obviously any plan for a banking solution of the situation must originate from these banks which are on the ground, and it is my understanding that our bankers are prepared to consider assistance in any effective plan of relief that they shall evolve." (Press, July 13.)

RAIL RATES

Providing a new basis on which income requirements of the railroads may be figured, the Interstate Commerce Commission made public yesterday a compilation of financial and operating statistics setting a tentative value of all Class 1 roads, adjusted to Dec. 31, 1930, at \$21,691,000,000. The report says: "Their net book value plus working capital on the same date was placed at \$24,078,000,000. The net book value without additions for working capital was \$23,518,000,000. On this new basis the railroads' plea for a 15 per cent increase in freight rates will be argued. The commission's present valuation of the Nation's railroads as a whole is the first fixed since that used in the rate advance case of 1920, when a final value of \$18,900,000,000 was used...."

CALIFORNIA RAISIN POOL

A Fresno, Calif., dispatch July 12 states that the California raisin pool's campaign for contracts of 10,000 additional acres of raisin grapes was completed at a mass meeting of 2,000 growers and business men July 11.

EGYPTIAN-SOVIET COTTON DEAL

A Cairo press dispatch to-day says: "It is generally expected that the Egyptian Government will sell to Russia this week from 30,000 to 50,000 bales of cotton from its stock. As recently as June 1 the Soviet purchased 25,600 bales from Egypt, and since then negotiations for further purchases have been going on between Premier Sidky Pasha and a brokerage house representing the Soviet...."

Section 2

Business

Conditions

The proposal initiated by President Hoover for a one year suspension of payments on international government debts has had a profound effect in bettering optimistic sentiment in the business world, the American Bankers Association Journal declares in starting its discussion of business conditions in its current issue. "Both in this country and abroad it was received with an acclaim that promises to make the action one of historic importance. The world is weary from debts, deficits and depression and a year's respite might well set the natural economic forces on their way to recovery. It will take time, however, to see in just what ways and to what extent this action will prove beneficial, and it is by no means certain that it will be adopted in its original form. Probably many people over-emphasize the significance of the proposal and fail to realize that it is only a beginning in straightening out the tangle in world affairs. Apparently Wall Street considers a moratorium on debts synonymous with a millennium of prosperity, and proceeds to discount the rise in stock prices for several years ahead, but the return of prosperity is likely to come, as in the past, from progress on the farms, in the factories and the stores and in the homes, rather than from the course of trading on the stock exchanges. Industrial production is following a seasonal, or possibly more than seasonal, recession but retail trade is holding up very well, particularly as measured by physical volume of goods sold. Commodity prices have rebounded rather sharply and this has stimulated the placing of forward orders. Textile manufacturing is now slowing down, but so far this year has made an excellent showing, all things considered. Shoe production and sales are running ahead of a year ago and other lines here and there are resisting the seasonal decline. Low rates in the short term money markets are now spreading rapidly to the high grade long term investment markets and even to the real estate field, where mortgage money rates are being reduced and building and loan associations are lowering their dividend rates...."

Community
Doctors

An editorial in The Farmer for July 4 says: "The cost of medical care and the readiness with which it may be obtained constitute two important problems to those living in rural communities. Very often rural people are shut off from medical attention because of the expense involved. In other cases, where the doctor serves a large territory, he can not reach the patient as quickly as he is needed. The lack of medical assistance constitutes one of the real problems of rural life. In recent years considerable progress has been made in bringing medical and hospital care to rural communities....To complicate the situation at this time, there has been a decided shift on the part of physicians generally toward specialization and toward the larger cities where the returns are greater for less arduous work. Many communities are inadequately supplied with medical facilities and with a shortage of doctors. Unless steps are taken to offer larger inducements to the country doctor this situation is likely to grow worse instead of better. In this connection it is interesting to note what is being done in the province of Saskatchewan, Canada, where twenty rural communities have organized within themselves to employ fulltime physicians at regular salaries. The practice followed is really a form of health insurance, whereby, by

a small per capita tax levy, each member of the community is entitled to such medical attention as he may require. It does not, of course, include prolonged hospital expenses, major surgical operations, and the like. These communities, called 'rural municipalities' and which correspond to our counties, are eighteen miles square and contain populations of approximately 1,800 people. The health fee, which is paid into the regular tax fund, ranges from seven to ten dollars annually per family, and from this fund a salary ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000 is paid to a physician, who then makes it his business to care for the health of the community. Office calls are free to all residents, although small fees are sometimes charged for house calls. This system serves the double purpose of permitting the people of the community to have the medical care which they need at a nominal cost, and of assuring the doctor a fair return for his work...."

Electricity in Horti- culture

Nature (London) for June 27 says: "Electricity is at present little used in horticulture, but since market gardening is usually carried out on intensive lines and in concentrated areas, there seem better prospects of its proving an asset in this industry than in farming. In a recent article C. A. Cameron Brown shows that a considerable amount of experimental work on this question is being undertaken, some of which seems suitable for development on a large scale. Electricity as a source of bottom heat appears to be particularly promising. Electric hot-beds are already employed successfully on the Continent, and it is not improbable that an extension of this system would lead eventually to some replacement of the usual manure hot-bed with its obvious disadvantages. The investigations regarding the use of power for cultivation, and electric light for increasing plant growth are less far advanced. Various cultivation implements have been designed, notably in France, but their cost of production is at present too high to merit their use on a commercial scale. Extension of the length of day by artificial lighting has been definitely shown to improve the growth of plants, but more experiments are required before it is certain that such treatment can be considered an economic proposition."

Farm Values

An editorial in The Kansas City Star for July 1 says: "'With the acre value of farm real estate in the United States down to only 6 per cent above average values from 1912 to 1914, the time which careful investors have been waiting for has come. The value of representative industrial, railroad and utility stocks dropped more than 66 per cent during the past two years, while the decline in values of farm real estate during the same period was less than 8 per cent. The comparatively small drop in land values during the last two years, despite the serious declines in prices of farm products, shows that land values generally have been on a sound basis in recent years. Owners of land temporarily are not receiving as high returns on their investment as they were receiving, but they have shown no disposition to throw their investments overboard because of fear that returns may not come back to a satisfactory basis.' The above statement was issued by the Federal Land Bank, Wichita, Kans., where inquiries from prospective purchasers of foreclosed farms are showing a tremendous increase. Loans for the first half of the year have exceeded 2 million dollars, indicating clearly a confidence in the future on the part of land owners. Land has

declined 37.6 per cent from peak values of 1920. During the same period seventy stocks representing industrials, railroads and utilities have declined more than twice as much as the value of land. There is every reason to assume that inflation is entirely eliminated from land values...."

Rubber and
Cotton

American Wool & Cotton Reporter for July 9 says: "One of the very large rubber companies uses hundreds of thousands of yards of cotton fabrics every year. In fact very many of the great industrial corporations use quantities of textile factory products and create a market of tremendous size which the textile industry must cultivate more thoroughly than in the past. This rubber concern is counted as one of the most important. A man in this rubber company who is responsible for all production and quality tells us that there is only one bleachery and only one cotton goods dyeing concern who can satisfactorily bleach and dye cotton cloth for them. The bleachery referred to is a small New England concern controlled and operated by an old, practical, rule of the thumb bleacher and finisher--a man who knows nothing of chemistry in a scientific way, but a great deal through practical experience."

Science and
Leadership

An editorial in Nature (London) for June 27 says: "...The specialized knowledge and restricted outlook of scientific workers themselves must be recognized among the factors which have hindered the establishment of right relations between science and leadership. Few scientific specialists could be named whose knowledge and opinions would be accepted as having much weight outside the narrow field in which they have elected to pursue their special studies or researches. In many cases their training has not even equipped them with the powers of expressing the results of their work in forms which facilitate its appreciation and assimilation in the normal life of the community. It must be admitted that chemists, physicists, and other scientific workers are frequently characterized by a colibacy of intellect which curiously resembles the physical colibacy practiced by the learned in the Middle Ages. This colibacy of intellect on the part of individual scientific workers is one of the main causes of the ineffectiveness of their professional organizations, which are rarely able to secure sufficient support from the general body of members for the success of policies originated by a few more fertile minds. If the future of society largely depends on our ability to link administrative power with knowledge of the scientific factors involved in our modern problems, that combination can only be secured when the scientific worker adds to his knowledge the wisdom which is the fruit of a balanced development. The problem is fundamentally educational. Our present educational system on one hand produces administrators, frequently of a high order of ability, but whose complete ignorance of science renders them incapable of assessing the scientific factors upon which all our modern problems turn. On the other hand, its tendency to excessive and premature specialization produces a diversity of specialists often devoid of the political or social wisdom essential for the evaluation of the other factors involved...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 10.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$5.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$8.75 to \$9.75; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.90 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$7.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 66¢ to 69¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 53¢ to 54¢; St. Louis 50¢ to 51¢ (new); Kansas City 45¹/₂¢ (new); No.2 hard winter, Chicago 53¢ to 53¹/₂¢; Kansas City 43¹/₂ to 43³/₄¢ (new); No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 50¢ to 51¢; Kansas City 50¢ to 50¹/₂¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 56⁵/₄¢ to 57¹/₂¢; Minneapolis 54¢ to 55¢; Kansas City 53¢ to 53¹/₂¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 28¢; Minneapolis 25¢ to 25¹/₂¢; Kansas City 28¢ to 28¹/₂¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$2.25 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.90-\$2 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Arkansas and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2.25-\$2.35 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. California and Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes brought \$1.90-\$2.75 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; Honey Balls 80¢-90¢ f.o.b. Brawley, California. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes \$3.50-\$5.35 per six-basket carrier in New York City; \$2.50 f.o.b. Macon. Virginia Yellow onions 75¢-\$1 per bushel hamper in consuming centers. Texas and California yellow Bermudas \$1.15-\$1.65 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in city markets. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, auction sales, 24-30 pounds average, closed at \$305-\$470 bulk per car in New York City; \$75-\$200 f.o.b. Southern Georgia points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 5 points to 8.78¢ per pound. On the same days one year ago the price stood at 12.10¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 2 points to 9.19¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 4 points to 9.22¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24¹/₂¢; 91 score, 23³/₄¢; 90 score, 23¹/₂¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14¹/₄ to 14³/₄¢; Young Americas, 14¹/₂ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 11

Section 1

July 14, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

The chief developments yesterday in the German economic crisis, in reports from the press to-day, were: "An announcement was made by the directors of the Bank for International Settlements in Basle that it would participate in a renewal of the \$100,000,000 rediscount credit granted the Reichsbank on June 25, and would also collaborate with the various governments in obtaining financial assistance for Germany. The directors expressed confidence that Germany's economic and budgetary condition was fundamentally sound, despite the present strain resulting from heavy withdrawals of short-term loans.

An emergency decree issued by President Von Hindenburg just before midnight, closing all German banks to-day and tomorrow, followed a day of anxiety in which runs developed on important banks in many German cities. The Reichsbank alone was exempted from the closing order.

In Paris the newspaper consensus continued to support the French Government in its refusal to facilitate assistance to Germany without accompanying political guarantees.

The prevailing opinion in London was that only a long-term credit for a very large sum would be effective in meeting Germany's present plight.

A Washington press dispatch to-day says: "At the end of a day filled with anxiety over the German situation, officials were of the opinion last night that the situation had improved...."

AUSTRALIAN-

CANADIAN TRADE PACT

An Ottawa dispatch to-day states that the Canadian-Australian trade pact was presented to the Canadian Parliament by Premier Bennett yesterday and simultaneously Premier Scullin introduced it in the Commonwealth Parliament at Canberra. The report says: "The pact adopts the principle of the British preference and gives effect to it on all, or nearly all, Australian exports to Canada, and at the same time applies it to 415 items of Canadian production seeking a market in Australia. Specific reductions are granted to certain Australian exports to Canada, and Australia gives its intermediate tariff to six important Canadian classes of exports to that country...."

INTERNATIONAL

DAIRY CONGRESS

A Copenhagen dispatch to-day states that the International Dairy Congress opened yesterday with 2,000 participating from nearly all the countries of the world, including several hundred from America. The congress will last until Friday. With it there is a dairy exhibition, where 1,400 producers are displaying butter and other dairy products.

LATIN-AMERICAN CREDITS

The press of July 10 states that as a result of conferences among Federal Reserve and Treasury officials, decision has been reached to have the Federal Reserve System cooperate with New York banking interests in extending assistance to Latin-American countries through loans or credits.

Section 2

Business' Financial Chronicle for July 11 says: "Insolvencies in June
Conditions among business concerns in the United States were much fewer in number than they have been for many months. The records of R. G. Dun & Co. show 1,993 such defaults in June and a total of \$51,655,648 of liabilities. These figures compare with 2,248 similar defaults in May, involving \$53,371,212 of indebtedness, and 2,026 in June of last year for \$63,130,762. There were fewer business failures in June this year than occurred a year ago, and there was considerable reduction in the liabilities. This was the first decrease in the number of failures in over 18 months, or since November 1929. Some falling off in the number of failures is to be expected as the year advances, but this year the decline has been far greater than in the preceding years. Both in the number of business defaults and in the indebtedness, the reduction from January to June has been in excess of 40%; in 1930 a similar computation shows a decline during the same period of 26.6%, while the liabilities in June 1930 actually exceeded those of January, which were also heavy. ..."

Farm Waste Utilization Neil M. Clark, writing under the title "A New Industrial Frontier" in Forbes for July 15, tells⁹ the possibilities for utilization of farm wastes. After outlining what is being done with cornstalks, corn cobs and other farm waste, the author says: "...So much for a few of the industrial uses proposed for corn and its wastes. What of the business development required to make the dream a fact? It is a virgin field; for the most part only beginnings have been made. Cornstalk wallboard is being pioneered. Cornstalk paper has been produced by a company which at present is in process of resuscitation from financial caducity, an incident not unknown in pioneering ventures. No commercial utilization has yet been made of cornstalk gas; it is too new. A company is producing cornstalk punk; corncob pipes have long been a standby; buffer wheels for polishing hard rubber are made from corn husks; there are various other minor developments. There has been extravagant prattle about farm troubles being settled in a hurry by waste utilization. That is silly. Former Governor Lowden declares that it will be a blessing if the farmer can get enough for his cornstalks every year to pay taxes. There are problems to be solved. Cost of gathering is more or less the crux of the situation. Waste materials that are scattered in little dribs over a wide area will not be picked up by the farmer unless an attractive market is provided....All this, however, is more or less beside the point. Agricultural products which have a recognized market are also produced in little dribs on scattered farms. With these, too, the problem of collection is serious. But the market is a sufficient magnet. The task is to provide a market that will make it worth the farmer's while to gather the waste. When that is done, it will be gathered. The concern that is manufacturing cornstalk wallboard made a special study of this point before organizing. They asked: 'Can we pay the farmer at least three dollars per ton for cornstalks in the field?--and do business at a profit?' They agreed not to start unless the answer was 'Yes'. They started. Conservative estimates place the average cornstalk production at one and one-half tons per acre. At three dollars per ton, this means a clear net yield to the farmer of \$4.50 per corn acre--and even more, as a labor return, if he gathers and delivers. Furthermore, he can get all value that he

now gets from the stalks....To sum up, then, scientists have made immense progress and revealed surprising things that can be done with corn wastes. It remains to solve the business problems and apply this knowledge practically. This article has dealt only with corn, necessarily, because of space. Corn is our greatest crop and probably always will be, since the kernel contains elements that make it almost the perfect food. But other crops have huge wastes too that can not be escaped. Common cotton linters have already found a great new outlet in the manufacture of shatter-proof glass. Oat hulls, produced at the rate of hundreds of tons daily by a breakfast food manufacturer, were practically worthless until an inquisitive chemist, Dr. Carl Miner, developed a process for recovering furfural from them--furfural is a chemical of a hundred important uses, a laboratory curiosity only a few years ago, selling then for thirty dollars a pound, but now to be had for ten cents a pound. California fruit growers get something like twelve dollars a ton for citrus hulls that once they had to dispose of at an actual expense to them of about one dollar a ton. Straw is worked into carbon, straw tar, illuminating gas, acetic acid, methyl alcohol, and many derivative products. Bagasse can be converted into paving blocks for roads, walks, and buildings, as well as into wallboard. Old pine stumps are being used in Georgia to recover, among other things, a pine oil that gives promise of revolutionizing the laundry industry... "

Science in
Russia

H. M. Dadourian, Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., writing to Science for July 3, says: "I should like to add my impressions to Professor Cockerell's contribution in a recent number of Science. During my travels in the Soviet Union for three months last year, it was evident to me that science and the scientific method have assumed an importance in the minds of the Russian leaders second only to communism. In every town that I visited there were new scientific institutes. Small laboratories have been attached to almost every kind of establishment, from the experimental vineyards of the Transcaucasus to the kitchen factories of Moscow. At the Academy of Sciences in Leningrad I made special inquiry whether research work is encouraged by the Soviet Government. Professor Paul Nikofoff, the director of the Seismological Institute, who was a member of the staff before the revolution, was emphatic in affirming that research receives the greatest encouragement, and as evidence showed me a number of reprints of recent scientific investigations made by his department. He said that before the revolution the department had a staff of three men, including himself and Prince Galitzin. Last summer the department had a staff of seventy persons, located in twenty-five different stations in the Union. The government is building a 500,000-ruble seismological laboratory....How is one to reconcile this situation with the reports of the plight of scientific men in the Soviet Union, particularly that of members of the Academy of Sciences? How can it be reconciled with the recent declaration of policy limiting research to the field of applied science? This is one of the many contradictions which exist in Soviet Russia....Another factor that affects the position of science in Russia is the question of valuta, that is, foreign currency to pay for imports. While there I heard complaints from engineers and scientists that they find it difficult to get scientific books and apparatus from abroad. If the government is eager to

develop science and to educate engineers, why do they make it difficult to import scientific material? For the same reason that they are placing the people on starvation diet by exporting everything they can put their hands on, while bending all their energies toward the ultimate improvement of the economic condition of the people--namely, in order to make the revolution safe. They are afraid of foreign aggression and are hectically working to industrialize the country...."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

The Business Week for July 15 says: "Possibly spurred by the fact that the American Medical Association through its committee on foods is proceeding to undertake functions presumed to be peculiarly within its sphere, the United States Government Food and Drug Administration announces that extra funds found available will be used to check packaged food labels. Wherever claims are not substantiated by chemical and medical science, the manufacturer is liable to prosecution unless he agrees to withdraw all packages from the market and restate these claims in accordance with actual facts. Many in the trade believe that this timely announcement by the Food and Drug Administration will clarify the situation and retard private activity along these lines."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 14.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8.75; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$9.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.50 to \$7.15; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.55; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.75 to \$8.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 63 $1\frac{1}{8}\phi$ to 67 $1\frac{1}{8}\phi$; No.2 red winter, Chicago 50 ϕ to 50 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; St. Louis 47 ϕ to 48 ϕ (now); Kansas City 40 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ to 41 ϕ (now); No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 40 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ to 41 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ (now); No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 55 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis 49 ϕ to 50 ϕ ; Kansas City 46 ϕ to 47 ϕ ; No.3 yellow, Chicago 56 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis 51 ϕ to 52 ϕ ; Kansas City 50 ϕ to 52 ϕ ; No.3 white oats, Chicago 25 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis 23 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ to 24 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; St. Louis 26 ϕ ; Kansas City 27 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 28 ϕ .

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$3 per stave barrel in eastern and midwestern city markets; \$1.85-\$1.95 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri sacked Cobblers \$1.50-\$1.60 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; cash track sales \$1.25-\$1.40 f.o.b. Orrick. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes, brought \$3-\$4.50 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; \$2.25-\$2.50 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Hileys \$2.50-\$4 per bushel basket in the East. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$190-\$320 bulk per car auction sales in New York City; \$75-\$200 f.o.b. South Carolina points. Arizona and California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2-\$2.75 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; Honey Balls 80 ϕ -90 ϕ f.o.b. Brawley.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 17 points to 8.53 ϕ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 12.11 ϕ . July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 14 points to 8.95 ϕ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 16 points to 8.97 ϕ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; 91 score, 24 ϕ ; 90 score, 23 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15 ϕ ; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 15 ϕ . (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 12

Section 1

July 15, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

The press to-day reports that the German cabinet adjourned shortly before midnight last night without promulgating any of the emergency financial decrees it had planned to meet the country's financial exigencies. It promised action to-day.

The Associated Press to-day summarizes the effects of the German crisis throughout Europe as follows: London--British banks refused German currency. The stock markets closed weak. Stockholm--Banks and hotels refused to accept German currency and it was feared thousands of tourists would be stranded without funds, as the banks would not cash German checks. Vienna--The Mercur Bank, which was controlled by the suspended Darmstaedter und National Bank of Berlin, closed. The Boerse suspended trading in Hungarian stocks for three days. Budapest--All Hungarian banks closed for three days after a Ministerial conference. Riga--Riga International Bank and the Bank of Libau suspended in respect to current accounts and deposits. The Latvian Cabinet guaranteed deposits in Latvian currency but declared it could not be responsible for deposits in foreign currency. Brussels--Reports from the borders of Belgium and Luxemburg told of thousands of Germans who were crossing with their cash. Luxemburg suspended marks exchange. Copenhagen--Thousands of tourists were without money when hotels, chauffeurs and shopkeepers refused to accept Reichsmarks. Bucharest--Financial circles were distressed by the closing of the Dacia Bank at Jassy with a \$1,000,000 deficit. Basel--The mark dropped from 123.50 to 112 and railroad exchange offices closed their wickets. Warsaw--No signs of panic and stock market showed only a small decline. Silesia was affected more than other sections of Poland, as several important business concerns there were financed by the Darmstaedter und National Bank.

GRASSHOPPER AID ASKED

A Pierre, S.D., dispatch to-day states that an appeal for Federal funds to aid farmers in grasshopper-ridden areas of South Central South Dakota was sent to President Hoover and Secretary of Agriculture Hyde yesterday by Governor Warren Green.

WHEAT MEN ASK "MORATORIUM"

A Kansas City dispatch to-day says: "A debt moratorium for wheat farmers is being proposed in the Southwest where harvest time--usually the season of plenty--finds farmers in despair over the unprecedented low prices offered for their crops. Instead of to the Government, sponsors of the moratorium are looking to bankers, farm implement companies and merchants to give them a respite from the bill collector. The hope is that if creditors will hold off even 30 days, or better, 60 or 90 days, wheat prices can be increased by saving the farmer from the necessity of selling his product at existing prices, which are as low as 25 cents a bushel at some country marketing points...."

MUSCLE SHOALS COMMISSION

President Hoover yesterday appointed Edward A. O'Neal, of Alabama, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, to represent agriculture for the Federal Government on a joint Muscle Shoals commission appointed by Tennessee and Alabama, according to the press to-day.

Section 2

Foster and
Catchings
on Condi-
tions

William Trufant Foster and Waddill Catchings, writing under the title "'In the Day of Adversity'" in The Atlantic Monthly for July, say: "....In every depression, men insist that business can not possibly turn upward without further liquidation; and they keep on saying so for at least two months after business actually has turned upward. How much liquidation is enough? Last year there were 1,345 bank failures and 26,355 business failures. Many of these failures did not cure troubles, but caused troubles. The more failures there are, the lower the price level. The lower the price level, the greater the burden of debts, and the smaller the value of tangible assets....When we force liquidation so far that we think business can not get worse and must get better, we proceed to make preparations for improvement, and the improvement comes! It could come sooner if we thought it could. But the apostles of liquidation always insist that further liquidation is necessary....For business as a whole, the basic trouble is extreme changes in the volume and use of bank credit, and consequent extreme changes in the value of the dollar. Over such changes, the United States has not yet exercised the control which is readily within its power. Everybody knows that it is always within the power of the Federal Government to bring about the needed expansion and increased turnover of money by sufficiently aggressive open-market operations, or by borrowing money for war, construction, or relief. No other immediately effective plan having been presented by anybody, the enemies of deflation rallied in defense of the bonus-loan plan. It is a poor plan; but evidently many men thought it better than no plan at all. It is one way--though a poor one--of conscripting some of the slacker dollars. It is a more or less conscious demand that they line up in the front trenches and assault the forces of deflation. At times, private business keeps up a sufficient flow of wages to sustain consumption and prevent deflation. At other times, it does not....During the first nine months of last year, merchants lost their markets and men lost their jobs mainly because there was not enough money in circulation. During the same nine months, seven hundred and twelve millions were added to time deposits. Throughout the past year, time deposits were in excess of thirteen billions. The only reason we had any business at all is because there were some five-talent men and ten-talent men who circulated money in such a way that it enabled willing consumers to consume. When we have enough of these good and faithful servants, we shall emerge from this day of adversity into a day of prosperity...."

Grasshoppers
in South
Dakota

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.D.) for July 9 says: "Eastern South Dakota has been watching with interest and anxiety the battle against grasshoppers in the Rosebud and other western areas. It probably has not given the thought it should, however, to the possibilities of a grasshopper invasion in this section of the State. It was late last summer that the grasshoppers appeared in the Rosebud in sufficient numbers to cause damage. They came on the scene early this summer and lost no time in wrecking the crops. Is there a chance that grasshoppers may visit eastern South Dakota in large hordes before the summer is over? The Argus-Leader does not know but feels that the experts in such matters should give thought to this matter, if they have not already done so. If there is a possibility of

an invasion, we should be prepared. Iowa is now considering the matter and is adopting preparedness measures in event that the grasshoppers should commence to cause trouble in that State. Grasshoppers are reported to be already numerous in western and southern Iowa...."

Tariff Changes

President Hoover's promised revision of tariff law inequities through the new Federal Tariff Commission has brought action in 22 cases, 12 rates of the Smoot-Hawley law being slashed and 10 increased. up to July 1, the White House announced July 11, according to the press of July 12. The report says: "In 24 more cases no changes were made. In all, 46 rates have been investigated and reported on, an average of about one a week, according to the White House.... Rates shown as having been decreased since the new law went into effect were: Pigskin leather, from 25 to 15 per cent. Wood flour, from 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ to 25 per cent. Maple sugar, from 8 cents per pound to 6. Maple syrup, from 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents to 4. Wool felt hats, from 40 cents per pound plus 75 per cent, plus 25 cents each, to 40 cents, 55 per cent and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Hat bodies, from 40 cents and 75 per cent to 40 cents and 55 per cent. Sewed hats, from \$3 a dozen and 60 per cent to \$3 and 50 per cent. Gelatin, 20 per cent and 5 cents a pound to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and 5 cents. Packaged olive oil, from 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound to 8 cents. Bentwood furniture from 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Pipe organs (2 classes), from 60 per cent and 40 per cent to 35 per cent each.

"The following increases were listed: Galvanized wire (two classes), from 45 per cent each, to 50 per cent before weaving and 60 per cent after weaving. Fourdrinier wire from 50 per cent to 75 per cent. Cylinder wires from 50 per cent to 75 per cent. Bicycle bells from 50 per cent to 70 per cent. Hemp cordage from 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents to 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ cents. Whole eggs, egg yolk and egg albumen, from 18 cents a pound to 27 cents. Woven wire cloth, from 50 per cent to 75 per cent...."

Vitamin D

An editorial in The Journal of the American Medical Association for July 11 says: "Out of a welter of confusion, the role of vitamin D in the body is gradually emerging into a status of comparative clarity. It ought not to be necessary to speak apologetically of the uncertainties that still characterize the functions of the remarkable substance that can be created through the action of sunshine on a well defined chemical compound, ergosterol. Less than five years has elapsed since the fundamental experiments were announced and it was demonstrated that a daily dose of not more than 0.0001 mg. of the irradiated material (probably only in small degree converted to vitamin D) suffices to cure rickets in the conventional small experimental animals. Even of briefer history is the discovery that massive doses of the potent viosterol may elicit pathologic conditions. Meanwhile, viosterol has become a therapeutic agent of undeniable value.... The richness and poverty of the diet in calcium and phosphate inevitably affect the working of the factor that 'mobilizes' these substances. When the diet is deficient in calcium the withdrawal from the bone stores becomes the noteworthy feature of the hypervitaminosis. When the diet is rich in calcium the bone is less called on, but there is increased liability to calcareous deposition as a result of an increased net absorption from the intestine, and partly also no doubt because the amount stored by the bone is less than normal. Each addition of calcium

to the diet intensifies the hypercalcemia and calcareous deposition with a given overdose of vitamin D. "

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for July 11 says: "The demand for wool has kept up surprisingly well again this week and prices are distinctly against the buyer, especially in medium fleeces, where advances of from one to two cents a pound have been made, compared with the low point. There is a better interest being shown in woolen wools, too, late this week. The West is getting very well cleared of wool, full 85 to 90 per cent of the new clip having passed out of first hands. Prices are stronger in the West by about two cents a pound in consequence of the better mill demand at the eastern seaboard. While the domestic trade were glad to see London open fully as high as predicted, the effect on this market has been negligible. London has maintained its opening prices through the week. There is evidently a broader demand for piece goods than had been suspected and this appears to have widened to take in woolen lines, to some extent at least. Consumption at the mills is very heavy and combers and spinners are working overtime, generally."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

New England Homestead for July 11 says: "It was 25 years ago the last of June since our pure food and drugs law went into effect and in that time we have seen a great change for the better in food and drug manufacturing. The change did not come about all at once or with the willingness of the manufacturers, and in the early days of the law misbranding and adulteration were very common. We can look back and remember the traveling medicine man who sold all kinds of patent medicines guaranteed to cure every ill. The treatment was usually worthless and often harmful. Honest producers were in the early days of the law having a hard time of it because of dishonest manufacturers and because the public was skeptical of their efforts. The passage of the pure food law marked the beginning of a great change for the better....The public gradually lost much of its earlier distrust and now manufacturers cooperate in the knowledge that the faith of the consumer helps their business. From small beginnings the food industry has grown to a business which manufactures food products amounting annually to several billion dollars. The drug manufacturing business has grown in like manner. There has been a marked change, too, in the history of the food and nutrition habits of the people. Americans have materially changed their diets and have increased the use of such foods as milk, vegetables and fruits.... The initial purpose of the food and drugs act was to safeguard the purity of food and drugs and to protect the consumer from fraud through the purchase of mislabeled goods. This purpose continues and great vigilance is shown to prevent any return even in the smallest degree to former trade conditions. A recent radio campaign has instructed the public in reading the labels on the goods they purchase. Not only is the enforcing of the act a great blessing to the public, but the food manufacturers themselves approve of it in practically every instance."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 14.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8.75; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.65 to \$7.35; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$9; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $62\frac{1}{2}$ to $66\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 51¢; St. Louis 48¢ to 49¢ (now); Kansas City 42¢ to 43¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago $50\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to $51\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $41\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 42¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 48¢ to 49¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 57¢ to $58\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 51¢ to 52¢; Kansas City 53¢ to 54¢; No.3 white oats, Minneapolis $23\frac{7}{8}$ ¢ to $24\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 26¢; Kansas City $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 28¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$2.50 per stave barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$1.75-\$1.85 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri Cobblers \$1.50-\$1.55 sacked per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes, \$2.50-\$4.75 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; \$2 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Hileys \$2-\$3.50 per bushel basket in Baltimore. Virginia Yellow onions 75¢-\$1 per bushel hamper in the East. Kentucky Yellows 90¢-\$1.10 per 50-pound sack in Cincinnati. Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2-\$3 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers; Perfectos \$1.10-\$1.20 f.o.b. Phoenix.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 5 points to 8.48¢ per pound. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 12.19¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 8.92¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 8.90¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 24¢; 90 score, $23\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 13

Section 1

July 16, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "To the accompaniment of news of Communist rioting in many sections of Germany, Chancellor Brüning's Government last night broadcast a series of decrees by radio opening the banks and clamping down drastic regulations on traffic in foreign currencies.

"In his broadcast appeal last night, Finance Minister Dietrich asked the German people not to forget that 'it is not the Government but private industry which is pressed for cash.' The Hoover plan, he said, with Chancellor Brüning's drastic economy program, has put the German exchequer 'on its feet' and even enabled the Government to begin repaying some of its floating debt. Already, he said, several hundred millions have been returned to industry."

EUROPEAN CON- FERENCES

The press to-day says: "While Germany was taking drastic steps to straighten out her finances yesterday, London was preparing for two important conferences—one of the Young Plan experts tomorrow, and the other of major European statesmen, which was decided upon last night. Paris will also hold an important conference, when Stimson and Edge meet Laval, Briand, Flandin and Henderson this morning to discuss debt problems. The Secretary of State arrived in Paris yesterday."

ARMOUR SALE PLAN

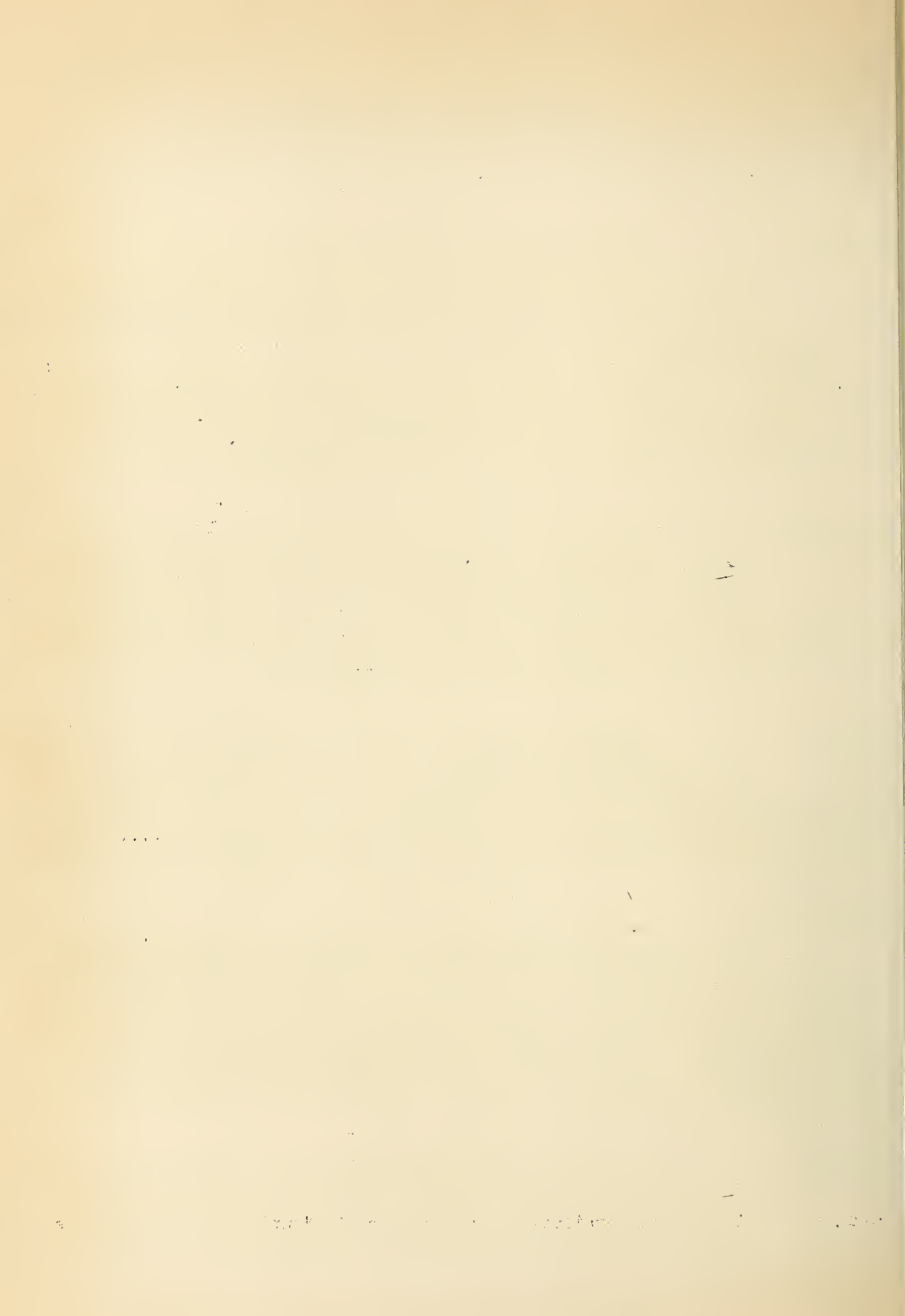
Approval of plans for the sale by Armour & Co., of Illinois, of all its holdings, together with those of its subsidiaries in public stockyard market facilities was announced yesterday by the Justice Department, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Hailed as an important step in the final execution of the packers' consent decree of 1920, the department disclosed that an order approving the sale had been signed by Justice Jennings Bailey in the District of Columbia Supreme Court...."

RAIL RATES

Contending that a national emergency seriously threatens the maintenance of future adequate railway transportation service, and possible impairment of railroad credit, the Nation's railroads, supported by life insurance companies and mutual savings banks, yesterday opened their fight before the Interstate Commerce Commission for a 15 per cent increase in the prevailing level of freight rates. Increased freight rates were pictured as a necessity to preserve railway credit by Edward D. Duffield, chairman of the emergency committee on railroad investments of Life Insurance Companies and Mutual Savings Banks. (Press, July 16.)

CANADA BUYS WHEAT

An Ottawa dispatch to-day states that Premier R. B. Bennett yesterday announced that 2,000,000 bushels of wheat will be purchased for the benefit of persons in the drought areas of western Canada. He said the wheat would be ground into 450,000 barrels of flour, which will be made available at a low price to "municipalities and those requiring assistance."



Section 2

Business

Theo. H. Price says in Commerce and Finance for July 15:

Barometers

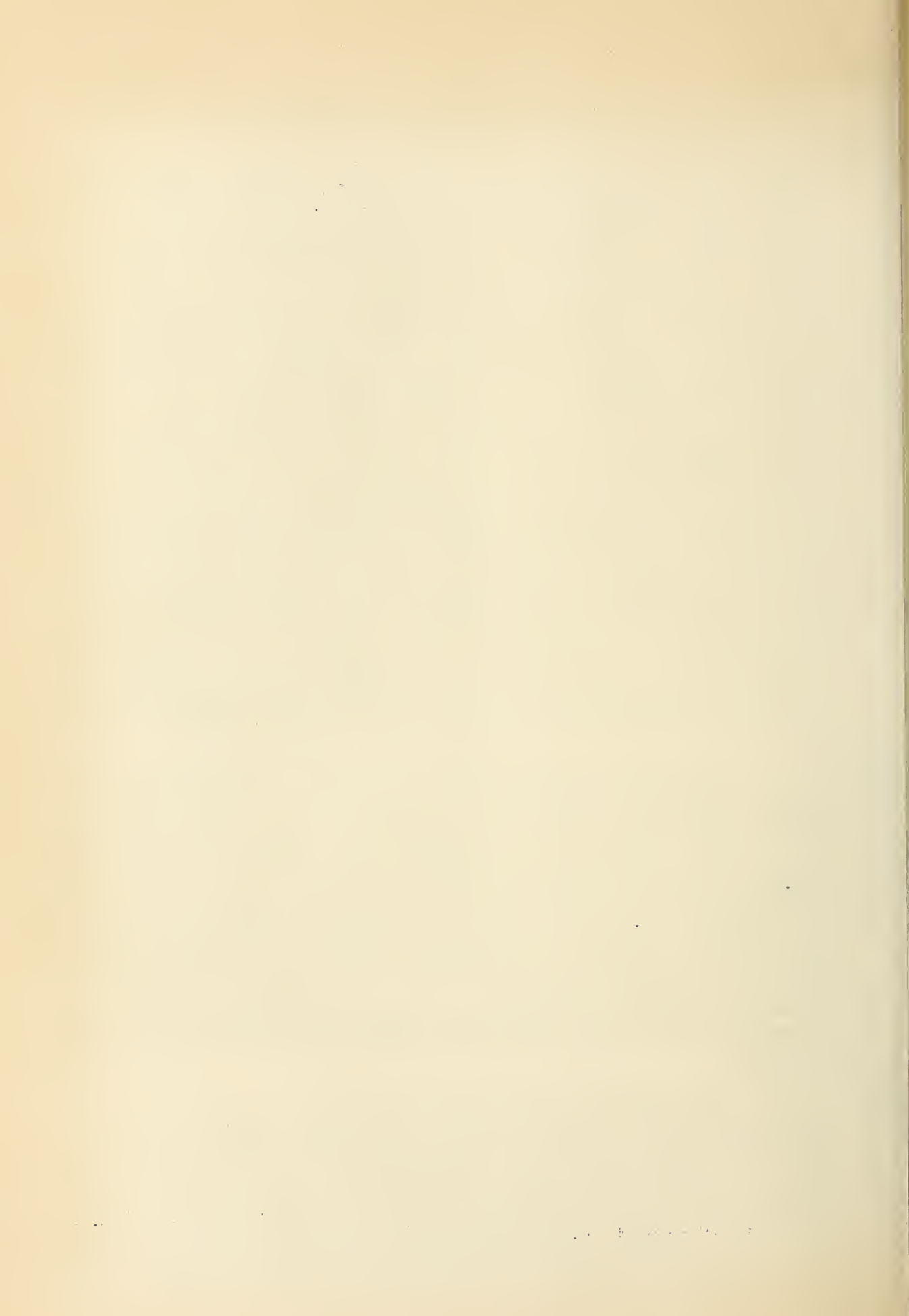
"During the first thirty years of the present century, economists have fallen into the habit of using bank clearings and car loadings as measures of the comparative business activity in various parts of the United States. Figures that were less representative and comprehensive, such as the sales of the department stores, exports, bank deposits, etc., etc., have also been used, but statisticians have until recently relied chiefly upon car loadings and bank clearings, and conclusions based upon the comparisons educed have been regarded as entirely dependable. But confidence in them is diminishing. The competition of the motor truck has worked a comparative as well as an actual decrease in the number of freight cars handled by the railroads, and the reduction has been emphasized by the greater density in the train load that the railroad exports have succeeded in effecting. Confidence in the weekly and monthly bank clearings has also been somewhat shaken by the fact that checks drawn on the successors of the consolidated banks do not go through the clearing house, or swell the total of clearings. The growing popularity of commercial and financial clearing houses is another reason why bank clearings do not any longer provide a dependable gauge for the country's business as reflected in aggregate amount of the checks drawn. On the New York Stock Exchange, for instance, a very large proportion of the stocks bought and sold are now delivered through the clearing house by the payment of the small balances due. In many other lines of business similar clearing houses have been established for the convenience of members and the avoidance of risk. The changes thus brought about have left the business world without the reliable business barometer for which so many economists have recently been seeking...."

Livestock
Trucking

"Trucking is making radical changes in the marketing of livestock. Farmers have turned to the truck, said H. H. Hulbert of the Federal Farm Board at the American Institute of Cooperation, because it allows them to pick their day of marketing; to ship at their convenience in less than carload lots, and eliminate much handling between farm and market. At the same time trucking of livestock is tending to decrease receipts at terminal markets and to decentralize slaughtering, and bringing disaster to many local livestock marketing associations organized for rail shipping, but, Mr. Hulbert added: 'With the rapid changes in market conditions and trends there is no doubt that the independent local association is a thing of the past. It is the foundation, however, for national organization of cooperative marketing of livestock. Men must cooperate locally before they can cooperate nationally.'" (Oregon Farmer, July 9.)

Nebraska
Foresta-
tion

An editorial in The Miami Herald for July 9 says: "About 50 years ago Nebraska started a movement for planting trees. There was much cheap land in the State, land thought to be of little use for farming, and so trees were set out. Nebraska was a prairie country at that time but now there are forests on what was once worthless sand hills. With between two and three billion trees in the State there is a considerable area forested. This forestation is said to have had an effect on the climate and the drought last year was less severe in Nebraska than in other regions. The crop in the State was estimated as worth



\$600,000,000. Trees proved valuable to Nebraska though the men who planted them are nearly all dead."

Pellagra

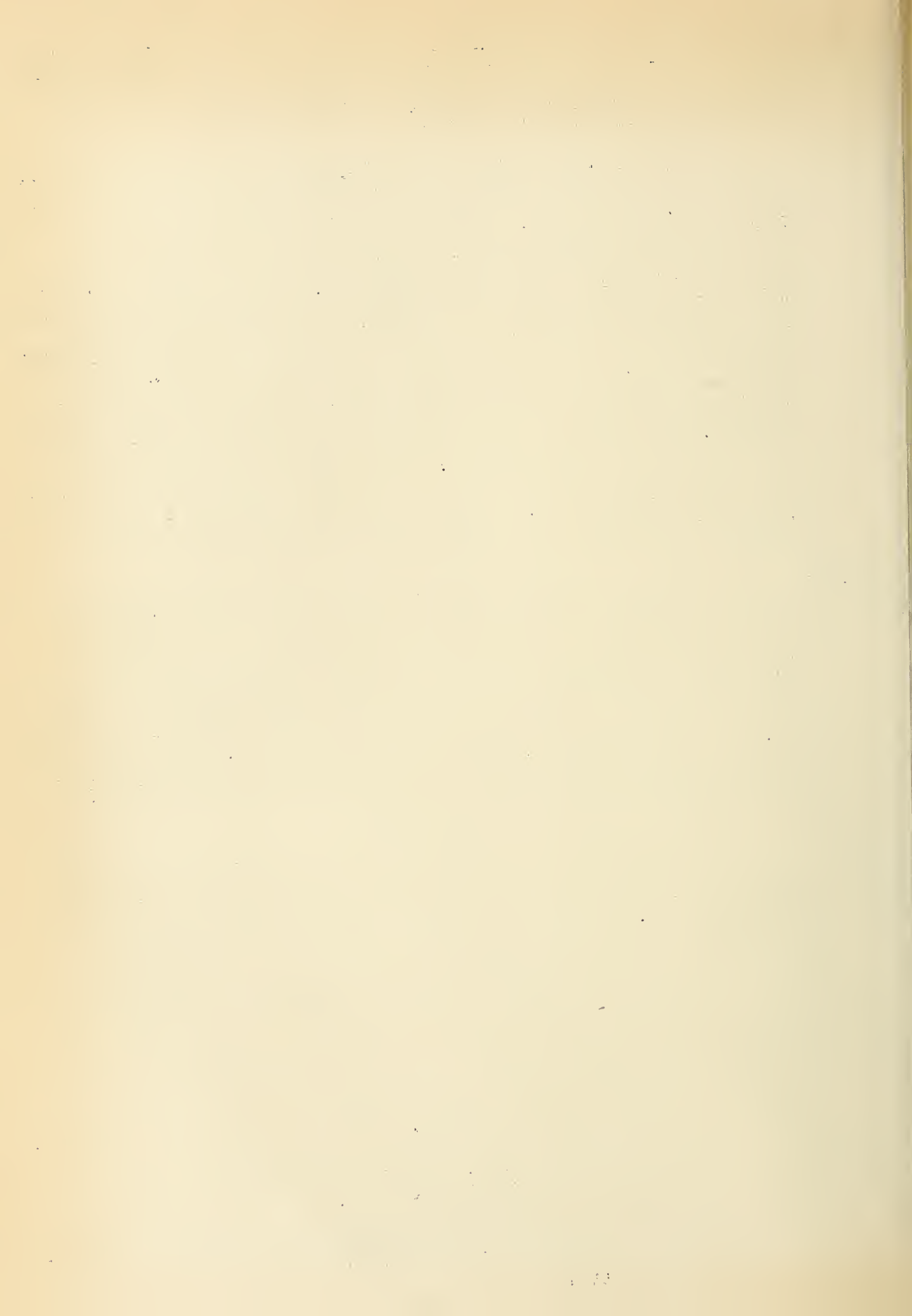
Evidence that pellagra, the distressing skin disease which has become known as the hard times disease of Southern States, may be caused by alcoholism as well as by improper diet was recently presented to the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland by Dr. Thomas R. Boggs, chief physician to the Baltimore City Hospitals, and, according to Science for July 10. The statement goes on: "This research of Doctors Boggs and Padgett suggests possible additional factors in the cause of this disease which has made its appearance rather recently in the United States, although it was known for centuries in Europe. At first it was thought to be caused by a germ and to be contagious. This theory was disproved by studies made by Dr. Joseph Goldberger and his associates of the United States Public Health Service. Their investigations showed that it was due to lack of an important factor in the diet which they called vitamin G. This factor is found plentifully in lean meat, milk, eggs and yeast, and in smaller amounts in some vegetables. This vitamin factor is certainly basic in the cause of the disease, Doctor Boggs said. 'But alcohol per se or other substances in the present day bootleg supply may play a part.'..."

Pencil Wood Supply

Science for July 10 says: "The pencil wood supply near large factories is practically exhausted and the industry is now investigating the possibility of utilizing Alaska red cedar, the finest-grained wood of the Northwest. Cedar wood intended for lead pencils must be soft, light, yet strong, close and straight-grained and free from defects. The older the tree the better pencil wood it makes. The wood from the heart of aged logs that have laid in deep woods for years makes admirable pencil material. A possible substitute for cedar in lead pencils is Pacific coast myrtle. Its wood is light, straight-grained, well-scented and of good color. Both cedar and myrtle woods are immune to the effects of quick climate changes."

Production and Con- sumption Prices

An editorial entitled "Meaningless Prices" in The Journal of Commerce for July 15 says: "A member of the Chicago Board of Trade who owns a farm in North Dakota is reported to have estimated the cost of a sandwich, a piece of pie and a cup of coffee consumed in Chicago as the equivalent of the sum that he would receive for the delivery of five bushels of rye from his farm. This is a startling comparison but it does not prove much. At all times it is possible to find absurd prices ruling for useful and even costly commodities that happen to be located in remote places or offered for sale when they are not wanted. We are accustomed, for instance, to hear of fruit permitted to rot on the ground, while prices for fruit not so good may be high in the central markets of the country. Whenever commodity markets are not well organized or transport costs are high, price anomalies arise. Normally, however, we do not expect to find demoralization prevailing in the market for our chief grain crops. They are grown with the intention of selling them for what they will bring, because there is, as a rule, a fairly steady demand at prices that cover the costs of the majority of producers. Present prices for staple agricultural commodities, however, have become almost meaningless in some instances because they do not reflect normal demands...."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 15.—Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.75 to \$7.50; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$7.55; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.60 to \$7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.75 to \$8.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.75.

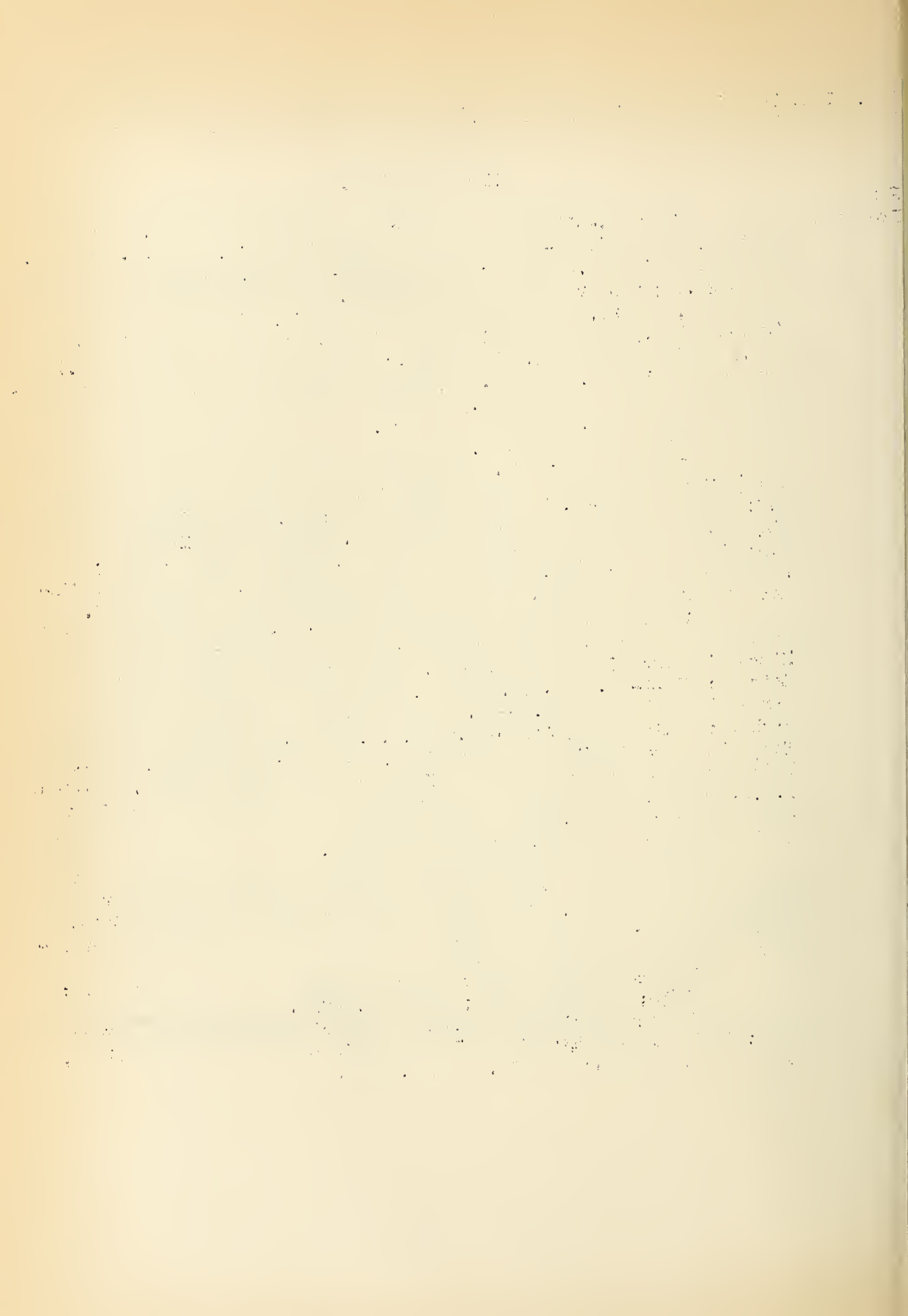
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 61 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 66 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 50 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 51¢; Kansas City 42¢; St. Louis 48¢ to 49¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 50 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 50 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 41 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 41 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 50¢-51¢; Kansas City 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 59 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 52¢ to 63¢; Kansas City 54¢ to 55¢; No.3 white oats, Minneapolis 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 25 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; Kansas City 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$2.90 per stave barrel in eastern and midwestern cities; \$1.70-\$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri sacked Cobblers \$1.25-\$1.40 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.30 f.o.b. Orrick. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes, brought \$2.50-\$4.75 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; medium sizes \$1.50-\$1.75 f.o.b. Macon. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$205-\$300 bulk per car on auction sales in New York City; 24-28 pounds, \$75-\$150 f.o.b. Southern Georgia points. California and Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged \$2-\$3 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers; Honey Balls 75¢-90¢ f.o.b. Brawley.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 4 points to 8.44¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price stood at 12.19¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 8.87¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 8.84¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 91 score, 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; 90 score, 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 14

Section 1

July 17, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

The French Government last night announced that a conference will be held in Paris tomorrow, attended by representatives of the United States, French, British and German governments, as well as other interested powers, to discuss relief for Germany, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The British Government on Wednesday night had issued invitations to a similar conference to open in London Monday night. France, however, has not accepted the British invitation and Paris dispatches last night indicated that she will not do so unless the German Chancellor and Foreign Minister give her satisfactory assurances at the Paris conference tomorrow. Pertinax reports France will propose at tomorrow's meeting that the United States Federal Reserve Bank, the Bank of France and the Bank of England grant the German Reichsbank a temporary credit of \$500,000,000. This loan would be guaranteed by German customs receipts. France, in return, will demand that Germany pledge herself not to increase her military budget until the loan is repaid and to agree to a truce on political questions for ten years."

President Hoover announced late yesterday that he had asked Secretary of the Treasury Mellon to attend the seven-power conference that is to be held in London next Monday, according to to-day's press. The fact that Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson had been directed to attend the London conference was announced earlier in the day.

THE STOCK MARKET

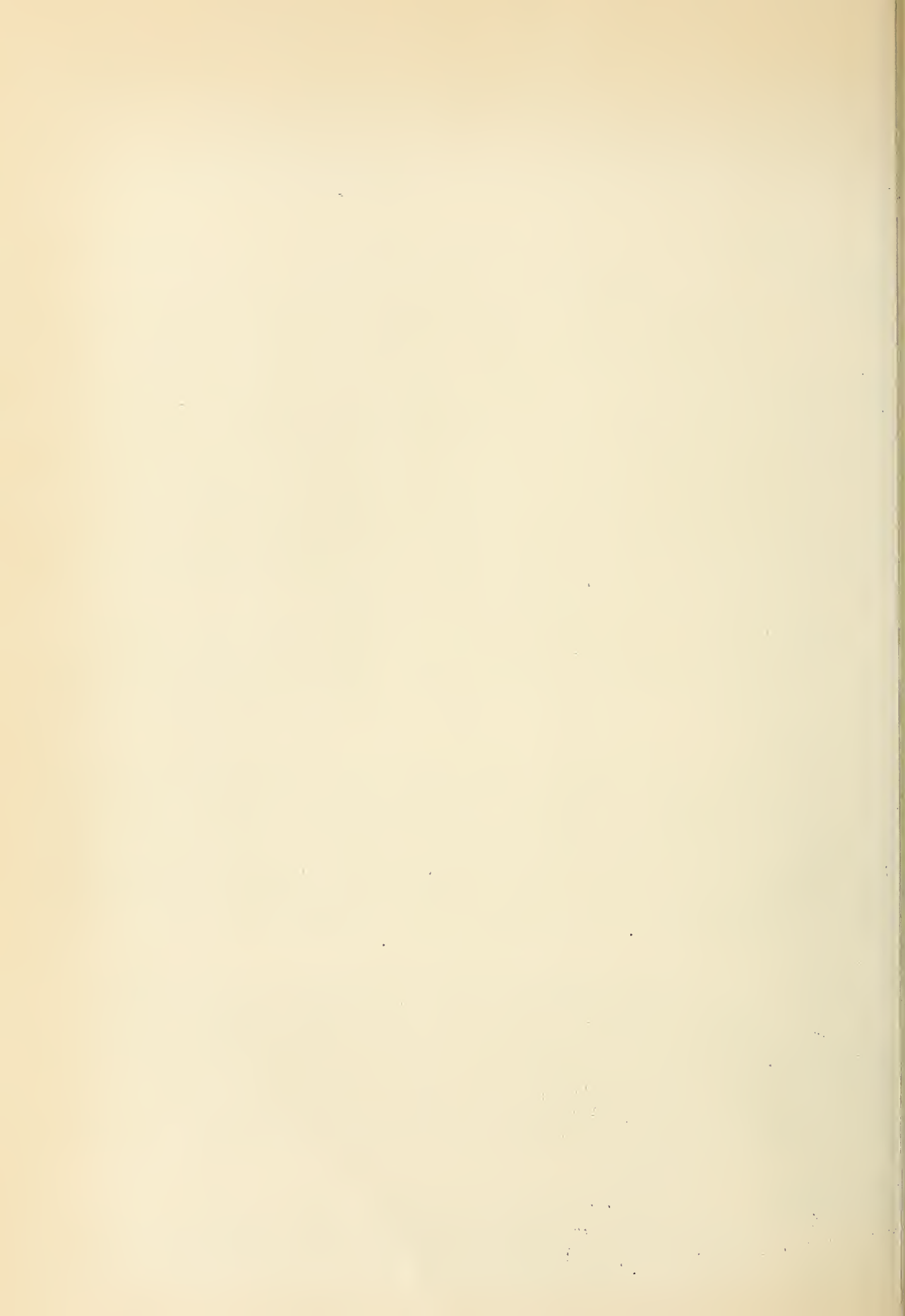
The New York Times to-day says: "Encouraged by the measures taken in Germany to meet the crisis there and by the news that Chancellor Brüning and Foreign Minister Curtius had been invited to Paris and London for conferences on the situation, the principal financial markets here and abroad rallied strongly yesterday. In the foreign exchange market, which had been seriously dislocated Wednesday, sterling led the advance with a recovery of 1 5/8 cents, allaying fears for the stability of international trade that had been evoked by the previous day's collapse...."

RAIL RATES

The Interstate Commerce Commission was told yesterday that despite low prices agriculture can stand an increase in freight rates, according to the press to-day. This statement was made by J. J. Pelley, president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, testifying in hearings on the carrier's petition for a 15 per cent increase. Shortly before, William Wolf Bikle, chief attorney for the roads, had said they found it impossible to fix a date on which the proposed increase might be abandoned. He suggested that the commission keep the case open, if an increase is granted, for any future action that might be warranted.

NITRATE CARTEL

A Paris dispatch to-day says: "When the world nitrate conference ended in failure July 15 in Lucerne, Switzerland, one of the most important post-war developments in international business relations was brought to a termination...."



Section 2

Angora Rabbit Industry in Britain Col. A. B. Minchin, writing in The Journal of The (British) Ministry of Agriculture for July says: "Whilst the Angora wool industry has been established for a considerable period in France, it has only taken root in the British Isles within the past decade. As a show rabbit, the Angora has found favor with English fanciers for at least half a century, but in France it has been bred only on commercial lines. The result is that the English Angora rabbit is far superior to the French variety as regards the texture and staple of its wool, which is thus specially suited to the manufacture of garments of all kinds. On the other hand, the French rabbit wool is considered by most spinners to be the only material suitable for the production of the coarse, fluffy yarn which forms the great bulk of the trade throughout the world....In 1928, the writer's firm commenced buying Angora wool in order to help British producers, many of whom were in great trouble owing to the failure of their market. The fact that the great majority of wool-growers consisted of ex-service men, pensioners, invalids, smallholders and others, whose entire resources had been invested in their rabbitries, made their position very precarious. Begun in a spirit of philanthropy, the undertaking has gradually grown into a big commercial concern, but the original aim of establishing the British industry on a sound and enduring basis has always been kept in view. With this object, we adopted from the commencement a scale of gradings and prices which, as practical Angora breeders, we knew to be remunerative to the producers, and insisted always on buying at these rates, although, throughout the slump, large quantities of wool were constantly being offered at breakdown prices. It was felt that the only way to save the industry from disruption was to show confidence in the future by buying month by month from the worst sufferers, at a fair commercial price, as much wool as means would allow. Many breeders have since stated that, had it not been for the confidence thus inspired, there would have been no industry left when the market reopened in 1930. As it was, some 3,000 Angora rabbit breeders were brought through the two-years slump, and the number of suppliers has since increased to over 5,000...."

Cotton Growing for Cellulose Peter A. Carmichael, University of North Carolina, writing on "Growing Cotton for Cellulose" in Manufacturers Record for July 16, says: "Various test plots on a large plantation near Rockingham, N.C., show cotton growing like clover, cotton close-drilled in two-foot rows, blocked hills of cotton, and cotton in a series of rows each differing from every other in the type of cultivation. The immediate purpose of these unusual methods of production is to ascertain which one of them will yield the highest percentage of cellulose content, not in the lint alone, but in the entire plant. Beyond that, there is the purpose of utilizing the cellulose for the manufacture of rayon and paper, thereby opening new outlets for the South's cotton crop. This experimentation is an extension of a project begun in the chemical laboratories of the University of North Carolina nearly a year ago....Under the direction of Professor Frank K. Cameron and with the assistance of one of his students, Nicholas W. Dockery, who with his mother owns the plantation near Rockingham, a series of tests still in progress was initiated, to determine the content and availability of the cellulose in the cotton plant. In these tests the stalk, bolls or pods, and lint were analyzed

separately and together for cellulose and it was concluded that if the plant yield per acre could be increased to about twice the amount produced by customary methods, then cotton could in all probability compete successfully with wood pulp as a source of rayon....The interest of the American Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, with headquarters in New Orleans, was presently drawn to the enterprise and, after inquiries, that association expressed its concern by appropriating a fund to help finance the work. A North Carolina pulp-manufacturing company is cooperating in the project and will soon begin extensive tests of the experimental cotton product to determine its suitability for the manufacture of either rayon or paper on a commercial scale...."

Farm Lands

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.D.) for July 8 says: "Before concluding that farm lands aren't worth the bother it requires to register them, take a look at the record of recent sales in Iowa. The Chicago & North Western Railroad has compiled statistics of land sales, valuation reports and so forth on farms in the sections of Iowa through which its lines pass. This compilation shows the estimated average value on January 1, 1931, to be \$144 an acre. It is explained that the regions through which the North Western's tracks go are probably a little better than the Iowa average but some of the counties making the best showing in the tabulation are those in northwestern and northern Iowa. Statistics of this nature have been prepared by the railroad for several years and there is a seeming indication that the termination of the downward trend is near. In 1927, the average value was \$159.25; in 1928, it was \$152.75; in 1929, it was \$148.25; in 1930, it was \$145 and this year \$144. The drop from 1930 to 1931 was only \$1 an acre, it will be noticed, while the drop in other years was considerably more than that. These figures hold a considerable interest for South Dakotans. Our land is just about as valuable as that in the better areas of Iowa. The Iowa regions may have a slight advantage in their greater proximity to the large consuming areas but they enjoy no preference in respect to soil fertility and climatic conditions over a large section of South Dakota."

Industrial Revival

C. W. Steffler says in Commerce and Finance for July 15: "Amid the encircling gloom of but a few weeks ago, widespread fear was rapidly engendering alarm lest chaos lay at the end of this depression. Despite current concern over the financial plight of Germany, since President Hoover took official cognizance of the interdependence of the several units of the world's economic structure, confidence has been restored that business history is again by way of repeating itself and that, as a result of the natural economic readjustments of the past two years, recovery is now in the making. The natural question therefore arises, 'Which industries will lead the way out of depression?' In our June 17 issue, Charles F. Abbott, managing director of the American Institute of Steel Construction, said the steel industry will take the lead in 'the greatest period of industrial development in all history,' which he sees coming in the next decade. Mr. Abbott predicted revolutionary developments in the electrical, natural gas, chemical, coal and aviation industries. Col. Leonard Ayres, of the Cleveland Trust Co., points out that in the past, recoveries from business

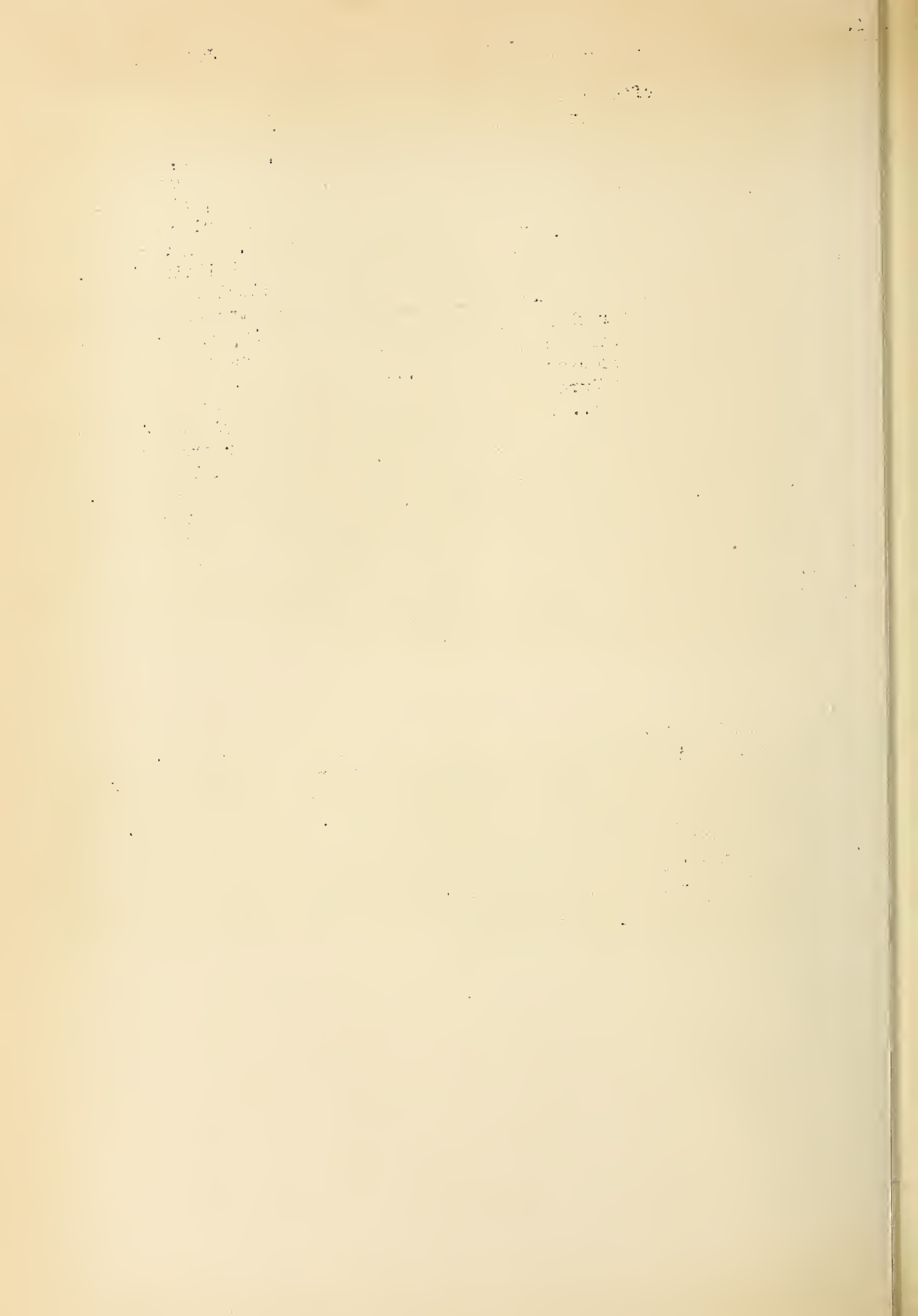
depressions have often been ushered in by sustained increases in the volume of building construction, and by greater outputs of industrial and agricultural equipment. In the present instance, however, he thinks it likely that sustained increases in the production of consumption goods, such as shoes, underwear, tires, cotton cloth, etc., will precede definite recoveries in the output of the heavy industries and in the volume of new building. The Standard Statistics Co. in a recent bulletin sees little in the outlook to suggest that the building industry will be one of the leading forces in the next cyclical upturn in general business....The long-range outlook for the construction industry, however, is better than some critical studies of its present problems might indicate, inasmuch as construction is a necessary service in the production of a necessary commodity....Ralph Borsodi, president of the Borsodi Analytical Bureau, sees encouragement in the upward trend of cotton, silk and wool....Through the activities of the Cotton-Textile Institute, cotton has done much to put its house in better order and the recent observance of National Cotton Week brought the producing end of the industry much closer than ever before to its distributors and ultimate consumers. The cotton textile industry has a great opportunity not only to lift itself by its own bootstraps but to aid in stimulating general business recovery. The rayon industry, too, has shown a will to adjust itself to the new conditions and is in position to help lead the way out of the valley of depression. A strong comeback in the chemical industry was recently predicted by Dr. Frederic A. Hessel in a report to the American Chemical Society...."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The Ladies' Home Journal for August says:

"The meanest man in the universe--lower by far than the wife beater or the thief of children's pennies--is the one who sells so-called cures for serious diseases. Yet new remedies for cancer, for tuberculosis, for pneumonia and other diseases continually appear on the market, to be bought by sufferers whose physical distress makes them gullible victims. The Federal Food and Drug Administration and the Better Business Bureau are doing splendid work in exposing fake drugs and so-called cures, but until the public wakes up to the harm in such quackery the vultures will continue to fatten."



Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 16.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; vealers, good and choice \$7 to \$8; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.75 to \$7.50; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$7.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.75.

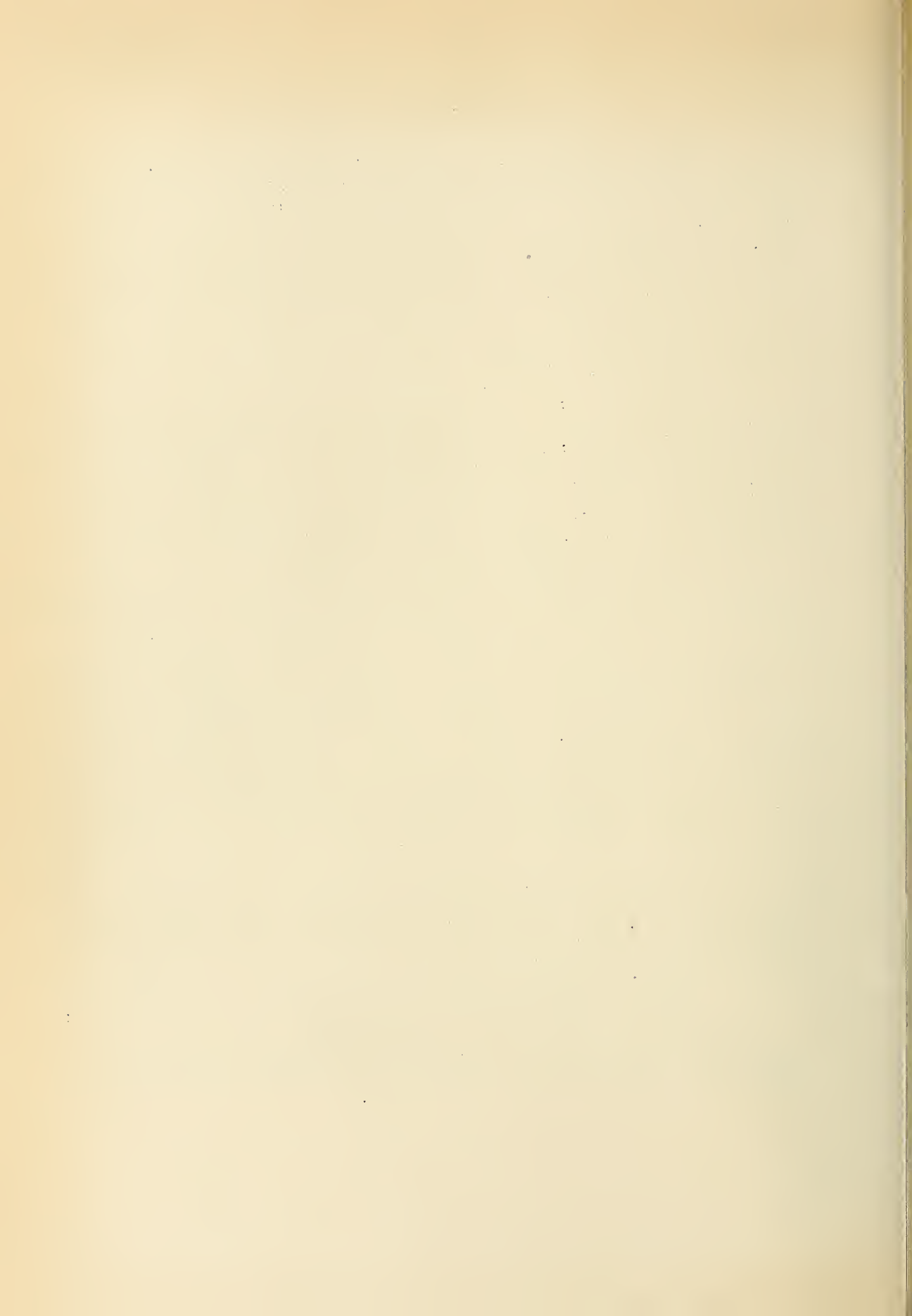
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein, Minneapolis 63¢ to 67¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 53 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 50¢ to 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 42 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 52¢ to 53¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 27¢ to 28¢; Kansas City 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 28¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$2.75 per stave barrel in city markets; \$1.60-\$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri sacked Cobblers \$1.20-\$1.30 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Orrick. Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.50-\$3 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers. North Carolina Salmon Tints \$1.60-\$1.75 in Baltimore. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes, brought \$2.50-\$4.50 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; \$1.50-\$1.65 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Hileys in bushel baskets \$1.75-\$3.25 in the East. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina auction sales of Tom Watson watermelons closed at \$250-\$365 bulk per car, 24-30 pounds average, in New York City; \$75-\$175 f.o.b. Southern Georgia points. Virginia Yellow onions 70¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Iowa yellows \$1-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in the Middle West.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 27 points to 8.71¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 12.27¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 27 points to 9.14¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 32 points to 9.16¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 25¢; 90 score, 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 15

Section 1

July 18, 1931.

MUSCLE SHOALS

A Florence, Ala., dispatch July 17 states that Secretary of War Hurley on July 16 told a joint commission appointed to consider disposition of the Government's development at Muscle Shoals that its task would be to find a method for devotion of the project to the interests of agriculture. The report says: "Flying here to-day from Washington, Mr. Hurley inspected the \$150,000,000 development and went into conference with the commission, members of which were appointed by President Hoover and the Governors of Alabama and Tennessee to lay ground work for a basis of future efforts to dispose of the project. 'The progress made in the field of chemistry by industry makes the properties at Muscle Shoals no longer necessary for national defense, whether in time of peace or war,' Secretary Hurley told the commission. 'Therefore, your major purpose is to find a method for its devotion to interests of agriculture.'... 'The whole thing,' he said, 'is primarily to establish a great agriculture experiment station for manufacture of fertilizers.' The commission set August 4 as the date for an organization meeting to be held at Florence and tentatively set September 1 for the first meeting at which actual work will be launched, which it hopes will ultimately set the machinery of the giant project in motion."

SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL IN GOVERNMENT

The press July 16 says: "Plans of Thomas E. Campbell, head of the Civil Service Commission, and of Dr. L. J. O'Rourke, director of scientific research in personnel and administration of the commission, to bring the best brains of the Nation into the service of the Government got under way yesterday at a conference in Minneapolis, Minn. Called by the University of Minnesota, and attended by responsible representatives of more than a score of the leading universities of the country, the conference is designed to discover how the universities and colleges of the Nation can best prepare their students for public service, not only with the Federal but with State, city, town and village governments.... Doctor O'Rourke announced at the conference that plans are in the making for a nation-wide canvass of the universities and colleges to ascertain the attitude of students toward entering the employ of the Federal Government and public service generally. The survey will be conducted by President Hoover's personnel council, but probably will be financed by private individuals or organizations."

GRAIN CORPORATION

A St. Paul dispatch July 16 states that purchase of Twin Buys Elevators Cities Elevators with space for 5,000,000 bushels of grain and of interests in 350 northwest country elevators was announced July 15 by C. E. Huff, president of the Farmers National Grain Corporation. The report says: "The corporation purchased the 3,200,000-bushel plant of the Farmers Union Terminal Association, its 1,600,000-bushel structure in Minneapolis and its 218,000-bushel elevator in Williston, N. Dak. Huff said the transaction was the largest of its kind by the Farmers National and gave it control of space for more than 50,000,000 bushels."

Section 2

Cooperation
in South
Dakota

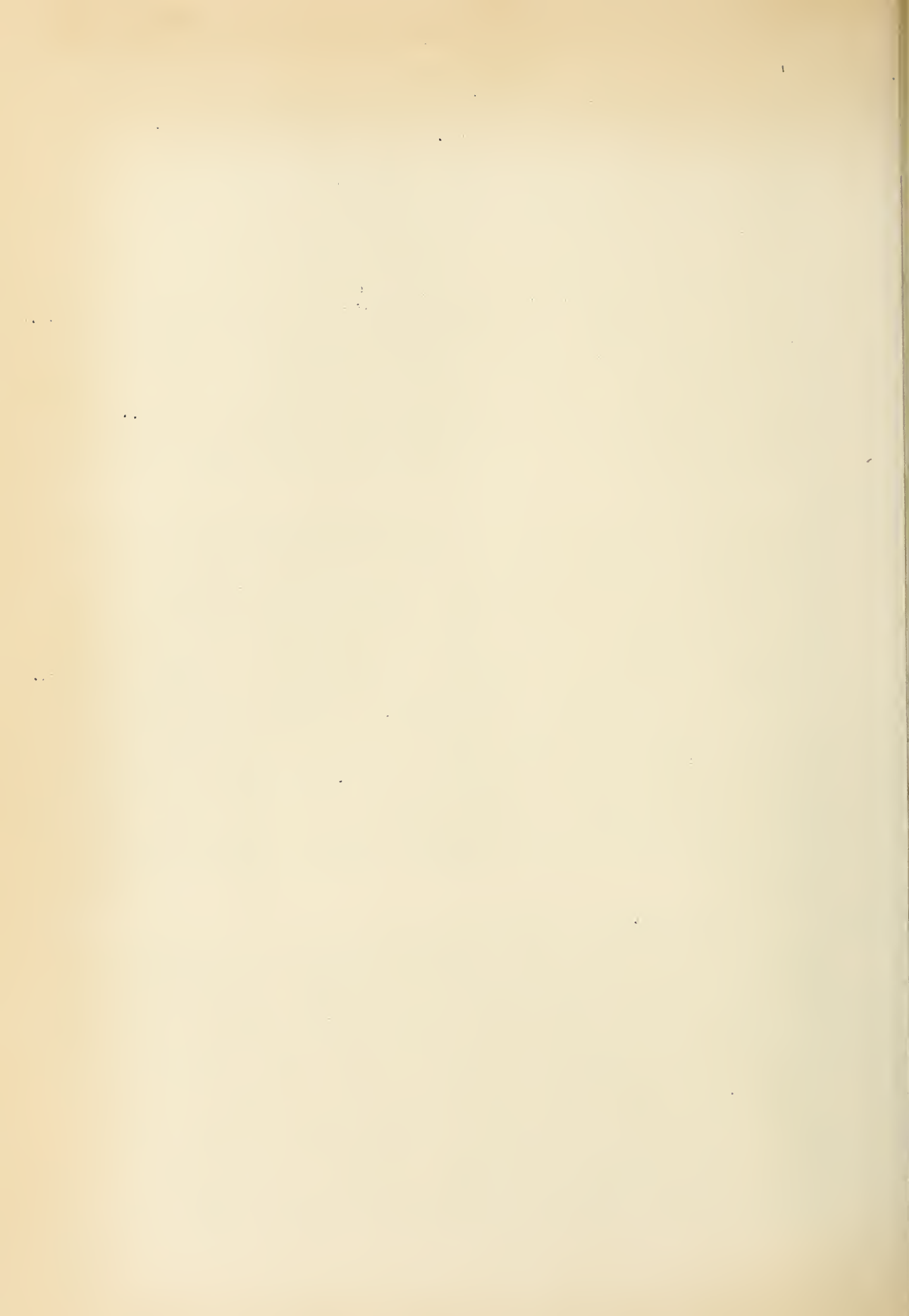
An editorial in The Dakota Farmer for July 1 says: "For the past year South Dakota has been under the microscope of the National Livestock Marketing Association, a Federal Farm Board set-up, and the Federal Farm Board. We have been viewed from all angles. Investigators have spent weeks in our State, driven many an auto mile, interviewed livestockmen, railroad representatives, packer officials, truck drivers, local shipping association managers, in fact, everybody and anybody intimately or remotely associated with livestock or livestock marketing all for the purpose of trying to determine why South Dakota is so backward in the cooperative marketing of livestock and with the object in view of making recommendations how South Dakota's backwardness could be overcome. The possibility of our own South Dakota people banding together in an effort to better circumstances is an inviting field and one where results should stimulate immediate effort. Certainly no argument can be advanced against our own South Dakota livestock folks expending their energies in an effort to obtain a more pleasing return for their products. South Dakota has a long list of accomplishments in practically all other cooperative marketing fields...."

Farm Records

An editorial in New England Homestead for July 11 says: "Up in New Hampshire, in Coos County, is a farm account book worth at least \$1,000. No, its covers are not studded with jewels, but its owner, Charles Davis, probably takes as good care of it as though they were. This spring fire destroyed his barn, equipment, tools, 78 head of cattle, and three horses. Before the insurance adjuster arrived, Mr. Davis and his banker went over the details of his loss with the account book and made an estimate of the damages he should receive. Later, when the adjuster saw the complete inventory and actual record of receipts and expenses for the past year, that amount was increased. The method was to check with the book those things that were lost. The missing articles were assumed to have been burned. Like the rest of us, were we to have a similar experience, many of the articles would have escaped Mr. Davis' memory had it not been for his account book. While most farmers carry insurance, as did Mr. Davis, the insurance policy alone is of little value unless the claim can be proved. His experience scores another strong point in behalf of keeping complete farm business records...."

Herd Improve-
ment

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for July 11 says: "A large number of Dallas County, Texas, dairymen have set out to get acquainted with their cows. They belong to the Dallas County Herd Improvement Association organized by county agent, A. B. Jolly. This association has been operating four months. During that time the number of cows milked by the members has been reduced considerably while at the same time the cost of production has been materially lowered. These forward looking dairymen first determined to give their cows a fair trial before they condemned any of them. They started by feeding each animal a balanced ration in proportion to the amount of milk produced. This ration was changed, in some cases, as the scales and test tube began to take the measure of the ability of the animals. At the end of the first month enough was learned to permit the first culling. At the end of the second month other animals had proved their inability to make the grade



and the herds were again reduced, and so from month to month the records of the association have shown an increase in average production....If the dairymen of the country would get acquainted with their cows and eliminate from their herds those which they are milking at a loss, the surplus of dairy products would soon disappear and there would be an actual shortage. The cost of production would go down and the market up."

Milk Surplus

An editorial in Dairy Produce for July 7 says: "That milk production can decrease suddenly and sharply finds proof in recent reports received by the Pure Milk Association from members. These reports show, as a result of the previous week of extremely hot weather in the Chicago area a decrease of 18 per cent. Previous to the hot spell there was a surplus of 33 per cent of fluid milk so the association concluded that there was still a considerable surplus over what was required for bottling. Another report, and from another source, early last week claimed that for the first time in two years surplus milk had disappeared from the Chicago district. The surplus had gone into ice cream, removing the necessity of finding outlets through the butter factories and through other sources used in dealing with surplus. Ice cream factories, besides using all the milk and cream obtainable from their regular and established sources of supply, have greatly increased their orders to the milk companies and were thus removing the surplus from the market. The report placed the extra amount of milk being consumed in the Chicago district at one million pounds. The report on receipts of cream in Chicago and the metropolitan area for the week ending June 27 also indicates the decrease...."

Road Construction in South Dakota

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.D.) for July 9 says: "The several million dollars that are being spent on road construction in South Dakota this year have played no small part in relieving unemployment. Many hundreds of men have obtained work on highway projects and many more have received work indirectly through the handling of supplies and repairs. Particularly interesting is the fact that a huge part of the funds for road building has come through the Federal highway appropriations. It would be pleasant, indeed, if a similarly extensive road building program could be conducted next year. Through concerted effort, it should be possible to obtain substantial Federal aid allotments for 1932 and it might be well for our statesmen to think about this proposition. The roads are necessary and desirable and the money utilized for them is well spent...."



DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 16

Section 1

July 20, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

A Paris dispatch to-day states that France and Germany have taken the first important step toward getting together. The report says: "In these past two days of almost constant contact and conversation the heads of the governments of the two great European republics have agreed at least to try their best to bury the hatchet. They are 'making a new start,' according to Foreign Minister Julius Curtius of Germany. They are 'determined to set up between them, to the fullest possible measure, conditions favorable to effective collaboration in both the political and economic fields,' according to an official communique issued last night after a long day of hard negotiation.

"That in itself is the best start for to-day's conference of Ministers in London, to which Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of the Treasury Andrew W. Mellon and Foreign Secretary Arthur Henderson went on Saturday and to which the German and French Ministers will go this morning...."

THE PRESIDENT ON WHEAT

A Topeka, Kans., dispatch to the press of July 19 says: "President Hoover, in a telegram yesterday to Senator Capper, predicted that the moratorium on war debts would have a healthy reaction upon the price of wheat. The President stated that the lack of foreign markets, due to the financial situation, was partly responsible for the low prices now being received by Kansas wheat farmers...."

The press to-day states that James C. Stone, chairman of the Federal Farm Board, agreed yesterday with the view expressed by President Hoover in a letter to Senator Capper, that "a considerable part" of the price difficulties of Kansas wheat farmers has been due to the "present paralysis of the export market," arising from the economic crisis in Central Europe.

RAIL RATES

Freight rates designed to pay little more than the cost of hauling were prescribed July 18 for western livestock by the Interstate Commerce Commission, according to the press of July 19. The rates, ordered under the Hoch-Smith resolution of Congress, result in decreases in instances. In some cases slight increases are made.

Evidence in opposition to the railroads' proposed 15 per cent increase in freight rates will be marshaled this week before the Interstate Commerce Commission, according to the press to-day. Representatives of long and short haul lines will be heard to-day. They are expected to be the last of the carriers' witnesses who have inserted a mass of statements and statistics into the records in contending that the increase was necessary.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT POOL

A Sydney, New South Wales, dispatch to-day states that a decisive vote against formation of a compulsory wheat pool was returned by the country electoral districts of New South Wales yesterday. Out of 20 districts voting, only five favored the pool. The vote was 9,789 against 7,277 for the pool.

Section 2

Food and
Service
Costs

The Christian Science Monitor for July 16 contains the following: "What is one paying for when his breakfast costs him \$1.35? Is that the price of one-half grapefruit, one scrambled egg, two slices of buttered toast and something warm to drink, or does about \$1 of the check go for snowy table line, newspaper at elbow, the services of three waiters and a check-room girl? Dr. Roscoe W. Thatcher, president of Massachusetts State College, came to the latter conclusion as the result of a little experiment in breakfasts engaged in recently. 'I was living temporarily in a large city and decided to conduct a personal experiment to make the situation clearer to myself,' he said, in commenting on his conclusions. He then related how he had breakfasted on several successive mornings in various types of eating places--main dining rooms in hotels, cafeterias, side street restaurants, and lunch rooms. In each place he ordered the same food, yet the cost varied from \$1.35 in the first hotel dining room to 35 cents in the lunchroom. The difference, he pointed out, was in the 'service' rendered. This ranged all the way from the three waiters and table linen and check girl in the prominent hotel to entire self-service, with tray and white-enameled table and paper napkins in the lunch room. 'Each meal had been what you might call equally clean and nutritious,' he said, 'and so far as I am able to judge no one had made an undue profit when the service rendered was taken into consideration. The lesson of my six breakfasts in the city is that the cost of getting food to the door of the ultimate consumer is only one element in the food factor. Attempts to increase returns to the producer and decrease food costs to the consumer are commendable, but they will in no wise affect the cost due to what is known as "service"'. "

Hay-Drying
Machine

An Albany, N.Y., dispatch July 15 says: "A striking advance in machine methods of advantage to the farmer is recorded in an announcement that the first hay drier to be operated by artificial heat in New York State has been installed in the 700-acre dairy farm of E. B. Ashton, near Saratoga, and is now in operation. It permits of cutting green hay and storing it the same day, even though the sun is hidden behind clouds. ..."

Highway
Beauty

An editorial in Nature for August says: "...In the rush of our economic development we have inevitably outsped certain things of a gentler character that are, nevertheless, essential to a well-rounded existence....The eye, with its increasing free hours, demands its rights. Symptomatic of this demand and symbolic of the tendency is the insistent call for restoration of our rural countryside to a state of beauty. Our new leisure is being spent much in the open, and that open, what with the billboard, filling station, hot dog pavillion and what not, leaves much to be desired. Naturally this situation has been translated into laws that endeavor to restrict such offenses against the eye. Equally naturally those individuals directly affected have sought recourse in the courts to protect rights which they regard as paramount to the rights of the majority. We have had in recent months, however, two important judicial opinions which seem indubitably to reflect the public demand. The first was the decision of the Supreme Court of Indiana in upholding an ordinance of the City of Indianapolis which sought to prohibit

billboards within five hundred feet of any park, parkway or boulevard... More recently we have the findings of the Master appointed by the Supreme Court of Massachusetts in the important and hotly contested billboard case in that State. This suit, brought by the outdoor advertisers against rules and regulations drawn by a State Commission pursuant to a vote of the people in favor of a constitutional amendment permitting such rules, has been in argument for several years. It is likely, in view of its fundamental importance, to go to the Supreme Court of the United States, whatever may be the decision of the court on the findings of the Master. Surveying the mass of evidence submitted, the Master found that, in addition to elements of danger through distraction and obstruction and adverse effect on property values, the billboard offended the esthetic sense. The findings sustained the commission in basing a part of its rules on a desire to protect beauty, and declared that beauty 'has, in fact, a real and substantial economic value to the Commonwealth, and to its citizens.'...."

Local Government

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.D.) for July 8 says: "In an address in Virginia, Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt held 'too much local government' responsible for excessive taxes. He explained that a New York citizen may live under 10 layers of government, each of which must have its regular contribution when taxes are paid. He suggested a careful study of government with a view toward the elimination of unnecessary units. In view of the present agitation in South Dakota for the abolition of townships, the recommendations of the New York Governor are specially pertinent. The townships are one of the numerous 'layers of government' that, perhaps, can be eliminated without a reduction in service and with some curtailment in expenditures....A close study of the township organization is desirable. They were established in the horse and buggy days and served a purpose at that time. Whether a necessity for them exists now or not is a question. The automobile and good roads have shortened distances and the seats of the county governments are not far away when reckoned in time of transportation instead of miles. Though each township does not spend much money, the aggregate is large. A good share, but not all of this, might be eliminated through the abolition of the townships. Some activities, such as roadbuilding and so forth, would be merely transferred to a different division though there would likely be a saving through the ability to do such work on a larger scale. Townships here and there often own rather expensive pieces of road machinery that stand idle much of the time. The proposal to abolish townships is not to be regarded lightly. It merits a thorough discussion. If savings can be made, we should not ignore them. The old argument that township government represents a desirable type of home rule is more or less specious. The townships now have no actual authority in respect to making laws and so forth and the phase of 'home rule' in which they are involved is quite expensive in many cases."

Prices

The index number of wholesale prices computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows a decline for June. This index number, which includes 550 commodities or price quotations weighted according to the importance of each article and based on prices in 1926 as 100.0, declined from 71.3 in May to 70.0 in June, a decrease of slightly more than $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The purchasing power of the 1926 dollar in June was \$1.429. Farm products as a group averaged $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent below May prices,

due to decreases for oats, rye, wheat, beef cattle, hogs, sheep and lambs, poultry, cotton, hay, domestic wool, and oranges. Corn, onions, fresh milk at Chicago, fresh apples, and lemons, on the other hand, were higher than in the month before. Among foods price decreases were reported for butter, fresh and cured meats, canned salmon, bananas, oleomargarine, and edible tallow, resulting in a net decrease of about $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent for the group. Cheese, dressed poultry, coffee, sugar, rye flour, corn meal, and lard averaged higher than in May. Advances in hides and skins more than offset slight declines in leather and boots and shoes, netting an upward trend for the group as a whole. No change was reported for other leather products. In the group of textile products further decreases are shown for cotton goods, silk and rayon, woolen and worsted goods, and other textiles, causing the group to decline nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent within the month. A decided decrease in petroleum products forced the fuel and lighting group down $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from May to June. Anthracite coal advanced slightly, while bituminous coal and coke showed further recessions. Among metals there were slight declines in certain iron and steel products and agricultural implements, with larger decreases for nonferrous metals. Automobiles and other metal products remained at the May level. Lumber, brick, cement, paint materials, and other building materials continued to move downward in June. No change was reported for structural steel. The group as a whole showed a decrease of a little more than 1 per cent. With further price recessions during June for chemicals, fertilizer materials, and mixed fertilizers, the chemicals and drugs group showed a decrease of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Both furniture and furnishings in the group of housefurnishing goods continued to decline in the month. In the group of miscellaneous commodities, prices of cattle feed fell markedly, while paper and pulp, crude rubber, and other miscellaneous items declined slightly. No change was reported for automobile tires. In the large group of nonagricultural commodities, including all articles other than farm products, and among all commodities other than farm products and foods, the June prices averaged lower than those for the month before.

Tobacco

Rail Rates The press of July 16 states that Examiner Disque recommended to the Interstate Commerce Commission July 15 that it find rates on tobacco in less than carloads from producing points in North Carolina and Virginia to southern destinations reasonable. The report says: "The principal tobacco manufacturers and the Tobacco Merchants Association of the United States last November complained rates were too high. The examiner held that the cost of handling and other expense factors warranted the present rate change."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 17.—Livestock price at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$7 to \$8; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.60 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$7.70; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.15 to \$7.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.75.

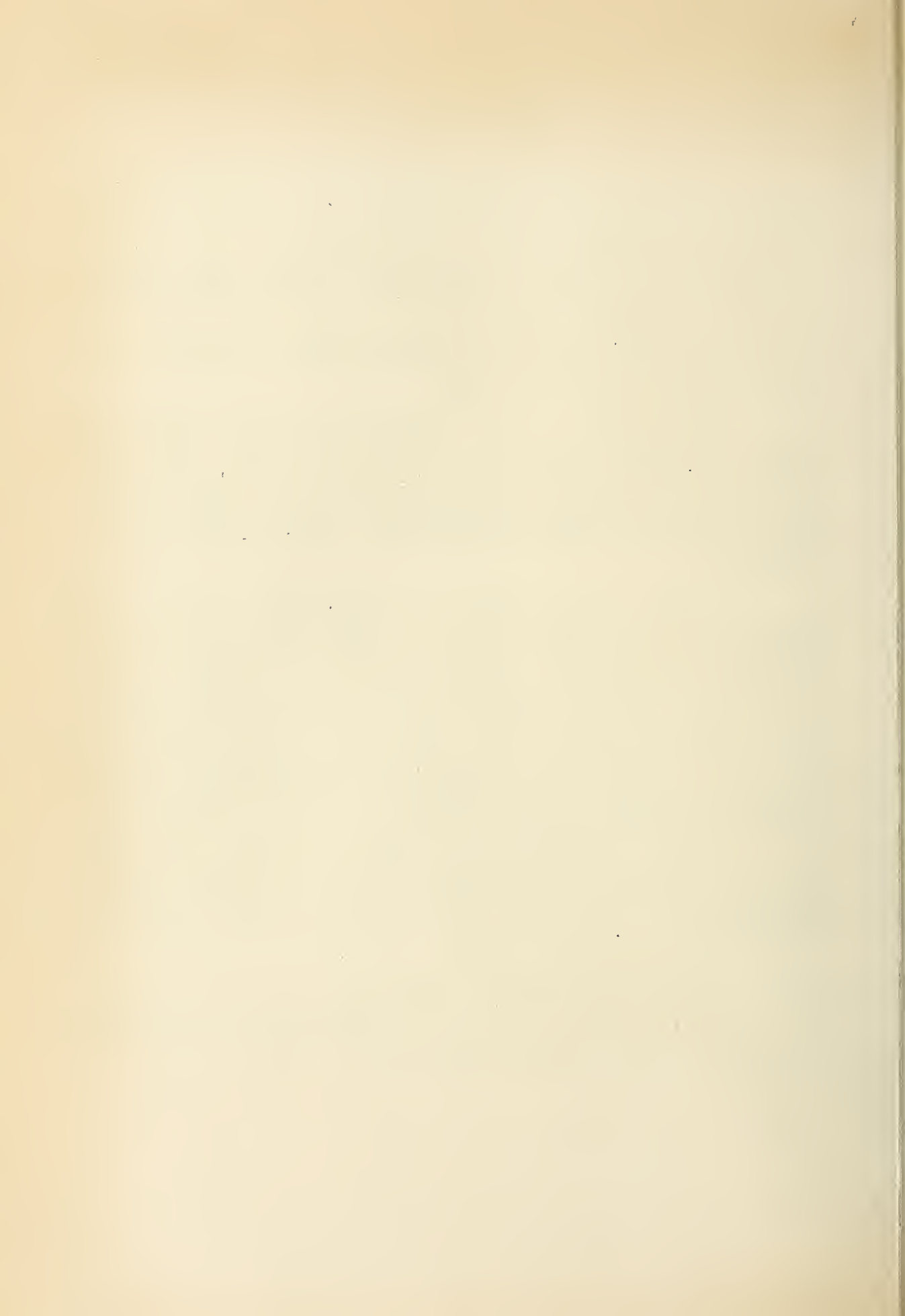
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 63¢ to 67¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 44¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 53¢; Kansas City 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 60 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 55¢ to 56¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 26 1/8¢ to 27 1/8¢; Kansas City 28¢ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.65-\$2.50 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.50 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri and Kansas sacked Cobblers \$1-\$1.10 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 85¢-95¢ f.o.b. Kaw Valley. Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes brought \$2.50-\$3.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets. South Carolina Salmon Tints \$1.25-\$2 per crate in New York City. Virginia Yellow onions 60¢-75¢ per bushel hamper in terminal markets. Kentucky Yellows 90¢-\$1 per 50-pound sack in Cincinnati. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$260-\$385 bulk per car in New York City; \$100-\$225 f.o.b. South Carolina points. Georgia Hiley peaches, medium to large sizes, closed at \$2-\$4.25 per six-basket carrier in eastern city markets; \$1.35-\$1.50 f.o.b. Macon.

Average price Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 6 points to 8.65¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price stood at 12.55¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 1 point to 9.13¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 9.06¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 25¢; 90 score, 24¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



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Vol. XLII, No. 17

Section 1

July 21, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

A London dispatch to-day says: "The seven-power conference summoned by the British Government to devise ways to save Germany from financial collapse held its first session in London yesterday evening within an hour after the arrival of the French, German, Belgian and Italian delegations from Paris....Premier MacDonald of Great Britain, as chairman, made a remarkably conciliatory speech in which he adhered very closely to the French stipulation that the London discussions must be confined to financial and economic questions...."

The United Press to-day says: "President Hoover decided yesterday, just 30 days after his debt holiday proposal, to take the initiative at the London financial conference called to consider Germany's plight. He telephoned to Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson, chief United States delegate, a series of suggestions on means to alleviate the German situation....The proposals will be presented to the conference this morning and it is understood they may be made public then....The proposals are not confined to measures that Germany should take herself to strengthen her finances, but contain constructive suggestions for the stabilization of her finances...."

An A. P. dispatch from London to-day says: "Chancellor Heinrich Bruening of Germany decided early this morning, unless something new develops to-day, to withdraw his plea for a \$325,000,000 loan for Germany and to ask, for the present, only for a continuation of the present short-term credits estimated at \$125,000,000....."

KANSAS WHEAT

A Dodge City, Kans., dispatch to-day says: "In the Southwest hard wheat belt the merchant has joined forces with the farmer in trying to hold 1931 wheat for a better market by accepting the grain in trade for food, clothing, automobiles, car repairs, lumber and other merchandise the farmer may need....Merchants believe their investment in wheat is wise and expect to sell it for 60 cents a bushel or better in six months. This cooperation by merchants is enabling the farmers to receive 10 to 25 cents a bushel above the market quotation on wheat...."

COTTON RATES

A New Orleans dispatch to-day says: "Intention of seeking lower freight rates on cotton in proceedings before the Interstate Commerce Commission and the various State railroad commissions was announced yesterday by the American Cotton Cooperative Association. The association said it not only will oppose the 15 per cent increase in rates now being asked by the railroads before the Commerce Commission, but will immediately petition for a lowering of the rate on cotton, which is handicapping the American grower in his competition with foreign producers."

BRITISH AGRICUL- TURAL POLICY

A London dispatch to-day says: "While Prime Minister MacDonald was receiving Foreign Ministers in his room at the House of Commons his lieutenants on the floor were having no trouble in defeating a Conservative motion of censure on his agricultural policy. The vote was 278 to 230...."

• 101 •

Section 2

Building

Reports of building permits issued received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor from 344 identical cities having a population of 24,000 or over, indicate that there was a decrease of 19.2 per cent in the estimated cost of buildings for which permits were issued during June, 1931, as compared with May, 1931. There was a decrease of 16.1 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings and a decrease of 28.7 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings comparing permits issued during these two periods. The estimated cost of total building operations for which permits were issued during June, 1931, was \$105,444,130. New buildings for which permits were issued during the month of June, 1931, were planned to house 9,542 families. This is a decrease of 16.0 per cent in the number of family dwelling units as compared with the month of May, 1931. Comparing permits issued in 297 identical cities in June, 1931, and June, 1930 there was a decrease of 35.9 per cent in total construction; a decrease of 25.3 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings and a decrease of 46.0 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings. The number of family dwelling units provided decreased 19.2 per cent comparing June, 1931, with June of the preceding year.

Living
Cost

The index number for cost of living for June, 1931, is 150.3, as computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, and shows a decline of 6.5 per cent as compared with December, 1930. This index number includes prices obtained from 51 cities on food and from 32 cities on various articles of clothing, rent, fuel and light, house furnishing goods and miscellaneous items, weighted according to their importance in the family budget, and is based on prices in 1913 as 100. From the peak of prices in June, 1920 to June, 1931, the cost of living in the United States decreased 30.6 per cent, and the decline was 9.8 per cent below the cost of living a year ago. Food prices are materially less than 6 months ago, showing a decline of 13.8 per cent. For the past 6-month period ending June, 1931, prices declined 4.6 per cent in the clothing group. Rents have been reduced, but not as materially, showing a drop of 3.1 per cent. The fuel and light group showed a decline in all cities except one and the slight increase in this city was caused by higher coal prices. For the 32 cities the decrease averaged 5.5 per cent. House furnishing goods have also joined the general downward movement and showed price recessions in June which averaged 6.0 per cent. The miscellaneous items also moved downward in the last 6 months. The decrease for the 32 cities averaged 0.7 per cent. In only one city the miscellaneous items showed an increase occasioned by an advance in street car fare, while no change was reported in 4 cities.

Locusts in
Trans-
Jordan

A dispatch July 17 from Amman, Transjordan, says: "Reports from Southern Transjordan reveal that huge swarms of locusts have been devastating large areas of crops in that region for the past fortnight. It is believed that 75 per cent of all the vegetation has been devoured by vast numbers of these pests. The measures taken by the authorities have proved wholly inadequate to exterminate the invaders. In some sections flocks of sheep were attacked and killed when the locusts found



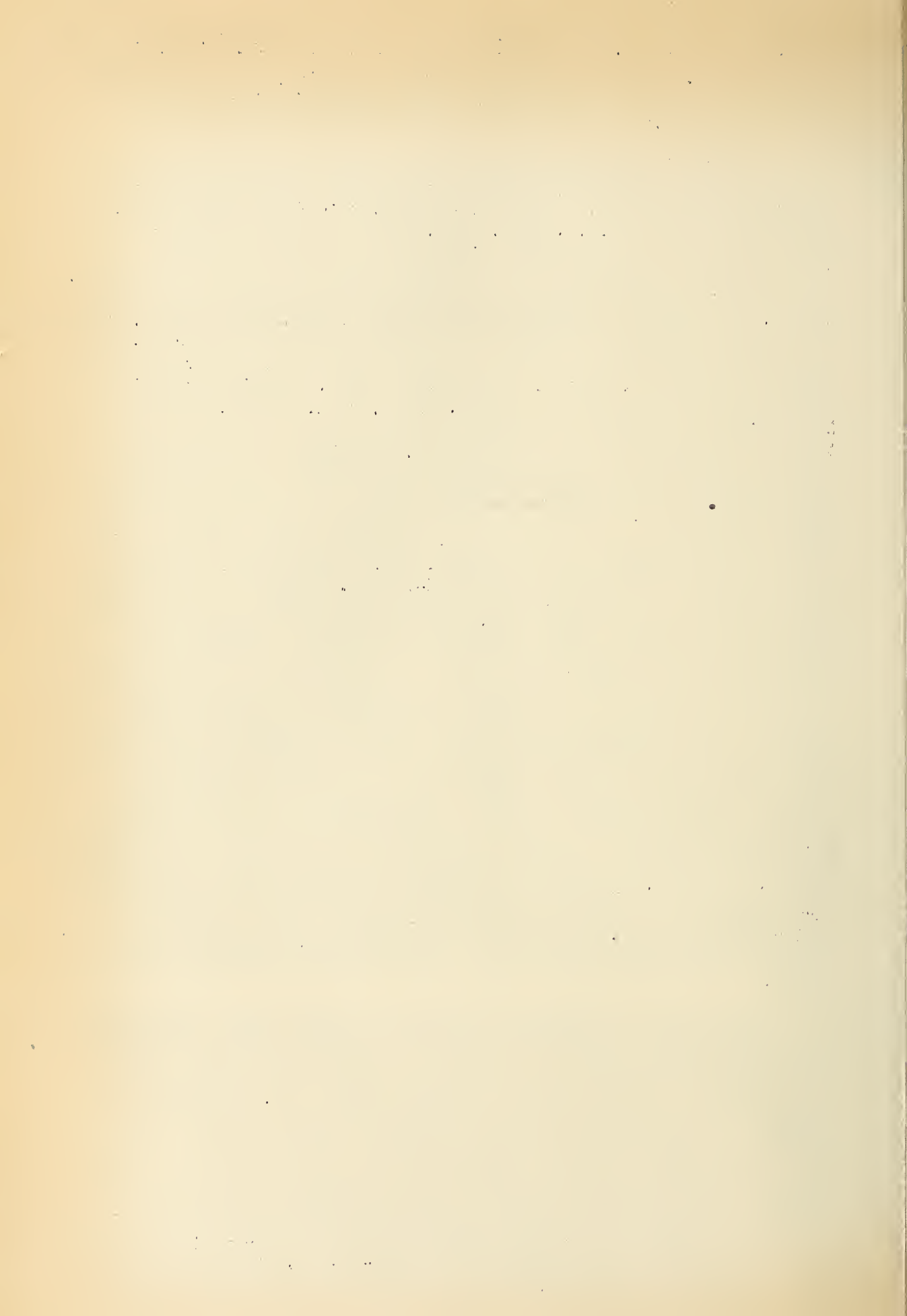
no vegetation. Farmers in Southern Transjordan thus face almost the entire loss of their summer crops, which consisted principally of maize and millet."

Population
Problems

Nature, (London) for July 4, in a report on the second general assembly of the International Union for the Scientific Investigation of Population Problems, at London, June 15, with Prof. Raymond Pearl presiding, says: " . . . Prof. P. K. Whelpton, of the Scripps Foundation, said that population increase was declining rapidly in the United States, being 9 per cent in 1930 as against 18 per cent in 1920. Consequently, the age composition had changed considerably in the last decade. The number of children under five has actually declined, while the number of persons over fifty has increased about 25 per cent. This slower growth and trend toward a nation of elders should have marked effects on economic, social, and political life, checking expansion and making for greater conservatism. Prof. A. L. Bowley, of the London School of Economics, dealt with some economic aspects of the tendency of population in Great Britain. He showed that during the past twenty years wages have increased, especially so in the case of town laborers; so much so that in 1929 such a man in regular work had a wage sufficient to provide the bare necessities for a family of four children under fourteen years of age. Poverty in urban districts is due, not to low wages, but to illness, age, unemployment, incapability, death, or absence of the natural bread-winner. During the same period there has been a progressive change in the constitution of the family. The falling birth-rate since 1914 has resulted in a decrease in the number of child-bearing women, a fall in the number of children, and an increase in the number of old people. With the rise of the real wage and the reduction in the number of children per family, future generations will live in an environment progressively more and more favorable for satisfactory development. Smaller families mean better housing conditions and less competition for employment. Dr. Karl Edin, of Stockholm, reported further on his study of differential fertility among the social classes. His figures show that in this city fertility tends to rise and not to fall with increase in income. Furthermore, sterility is greater amongst the poor couples. Prof. Eugen Fischer, of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute fur Anthropologie, reported on Doctor Muckermann's studies on differential fertility of the agricultural workers and university teachers in Germany. The conclusion to be derived from this study is that a social group, selected on the basis of intellectual achievement, is incapable of maintaining its numbers...."

Rail Rates

An editorial in Successful Farming for August says: "Claiming that reduced earnings threaten the value of their securities, railroads of the United States asked the Interstate Commerce Commission June 16 for an increase of 15 per cent in freight rates. The commission has asked for more specific information which at this writing has not been furnished by the railroads. We are uncertain, therefore, how much agriculture will be affected. Agriculture is in no condition to assume a new freight burden...The position of railway executives is extremely difficult. We are sympathetic toward their problems and grant that railroads are essential to the prosperity of this country. We do feel, however, that there are economies within railroad organizations that should be practiced although excellent progress has already been made in this respect by the roads...."

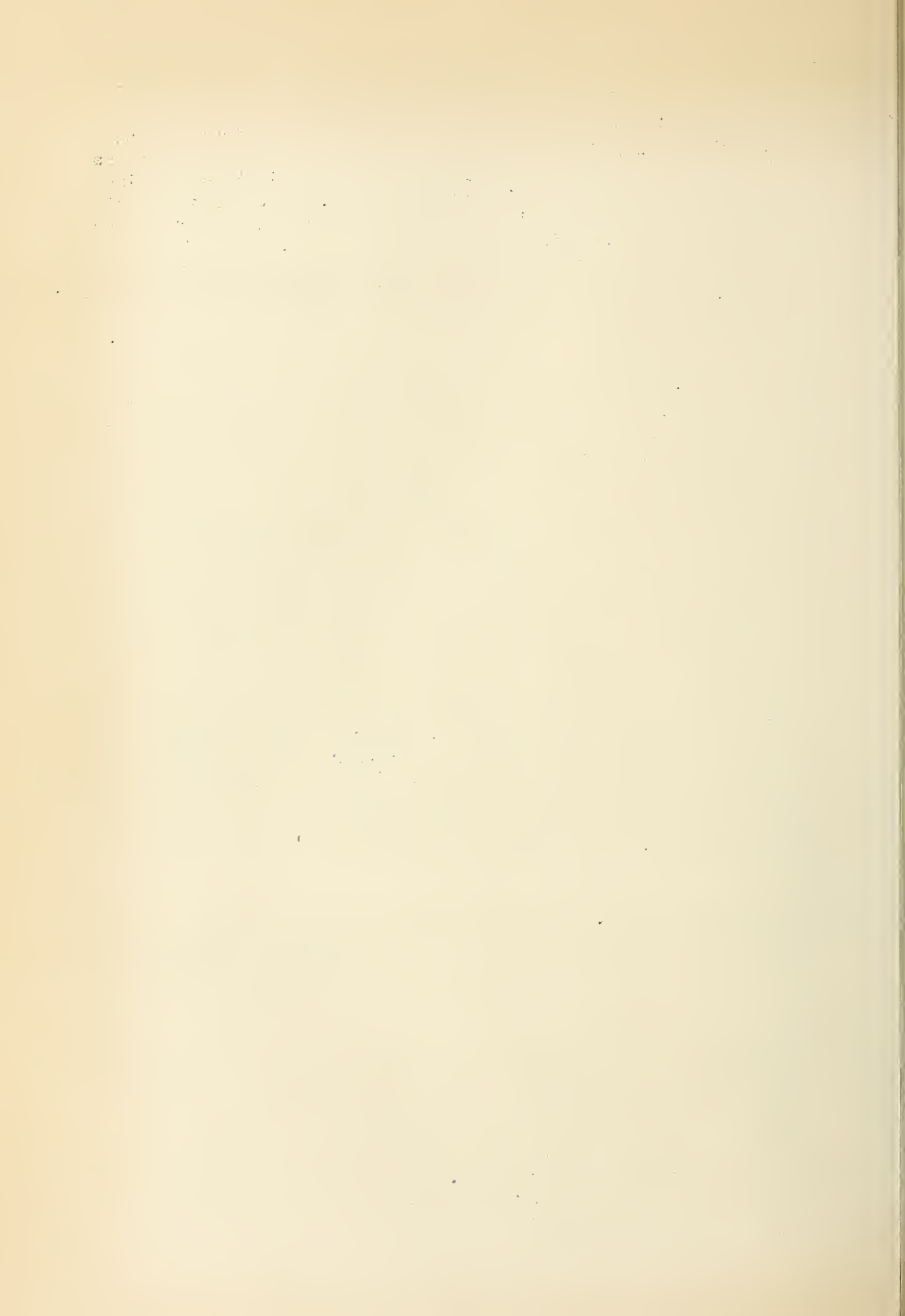


Vegetables in
Children's
Diet

An editorial in The Journal of the American Medical Association for July 18 says: "The demand for fresh vegetables in the nutrition of young children is based chiefly on the importance of a diet rich in vitamins and the consideration that canned vegetables lose in the canning process an appreciable proportion of the vitamins and the mineral salts. The clinical conditions and the problems affecting the physiology of nutrition were discussed in detail by Professor Langstein before the Berliner medizinische Gesellschaft. A loss of vitamins and of mineral salts may occur even when fresh vegetables are prepared in the home. If proper precautions are taken, the loss of mineral salts may be reduced to a minimum when the vegetables are prepared in the home for immediate consumption and when they are canned for later use. Vitamins are to a certain extent heat-fast and consequently are not destroyed by the canning process; but they are more easily damaged through wrong methods of home preparation than they are by the ordinary canning process on a large scale. The use of canned vegetables for months in the feeding of children, ordinary dietary schemes being followed, offers no difficulties and shows no injuries of any kind that might be associated with lack of vitamins or mineral salts. There is, in general, an essential difference between turnips and spinach, the vegetables used in infant feeding, since spinach remains much longer in the stomach than do turnips. A comparison of fresh vegetables and canned vegetables shows that, as a rule, the canned product accelerates gastric activity more than fresh vegetables. This is especially true if one compares a good canning spinach (an early spring product) with a fresh spinach of later growth. The stay in the stomach stands in close relation to the cellulose content of the vegetables, the time being lengthened as the cellulose is decreased. There is usually no essential difference between the formation of gastric juice in the stomach with fresh vegetables and canned vegetables. In the infant the secretion of gastric juice is less efficient in the vegetable periods than in the vegetable-free periods."

Wild Life
Conservation

An editorial in The Farmer for July 11 says: "The importance of game conservation and of adequate protection of wild life in the United States can not be too greatly emphasized, and while much excellent work has been and is being accomplished in this field, we do not believe that general interest in it is as keen or as active as it should be. It is a question of particular interest to farmers, and reference was made in our columns some time ago to the possibilities of cooperative game farming, whereby groups of farmers living in game regions might band together for the purpose of propagating and protecting wild birds. Such a plan, if carried out on a proper basis and if extensive enough, would do much to assure the future permanence of many rapidly decreasing species, a permanence which will insure continued opportunities for hunting and recreation, provide an income for thousands of people, increase the value of land, and provide a permanent wild food supply."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm July 20.--Livestock prices quoted at Chicago: Slaughter Products cattle, calves and vealers: steers (1100-1500 lbs.): good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$6.00; heifers (550-850 lbs.): good and choice \$7.00 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.00; feeder and stocker cattle: steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7.00. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.): good and choice \$5.40 to \$7.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.): good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.): good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.15. (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$8.00; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.00 to \$5.75.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 62-1/4¢ to 66-1/4¢; No. 2 red winter, Chicago 52-1/2¢; St. Louis 49-1/2¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 43-1/2¢ to 44¢; No. 2 hard winter, Chicago 52-1/2¢ to 52-3/4¢; Kansas City 43¢ to 43-3/4¢; No. 3 mixed corn, Chicago 57-1/2¢ to 57-3/4¢; Minneapolis 48-1/2¢ to 49-1/2¢; Kansas City 49¢ to 50¢; No. 3 yellow, Chicago 57-1/4¢ to 58¢; Minneapolis 50-1/2¢ to 51-1/2¢; Kansas City 53¢ to 54¢; No. 3 white oats, Chicago 25¢ to 25-1/4¢ (New); Minneapolis 25-3/4¢ to 26-3/4¢; Kansas City 29¢ to 29-1/2¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes jobbing at \$1.50-\$2.65 per barrel in terminal markets; \$1.50-\$1.60 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Missouri sacked Cobblers \$1-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in Chicago carlot market, with f.o.b. sales of Kaw Valley Cobblers at 95¢-\$1 at shipping points in Kansas. Arizona and California cantaloupes \$2-\$3.50 per standard-45 crate in consuming centers, with rolling cars sold on the f.o.b. wire auction at \$1.10 for Arizona stock and \$1.35-\$1.50 for California stock. North Carolina Salmon Tints jobbing at \$1-\$2 per standard crate in the East. Virginia yellow onions 50¢ to 70¢ per bushel hamper in large city markets, and Iowa yellows in 50-pound sacks ranging 90¢-\$1.25. Southeastern Tom Watson watermelons, weighing 24-30 pounds, stronger at shipping points at \$100-\$200 bulk per carload on a cash-track basis; \$185-\$410 in terminal markets in carlots or 25¢-65¢ on a unit basis. Georgia Elberta peaches returning \$1.50 per six-basket crate f.o.b. shipping points, and \$2-\$2.50 in New York City. Hileys \$1.75-\$3 in city terminals; \$1 f.o.b. central Georgia.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 35 points to 9.03¢ per pound. On the corresponding day last year the price was 12.37¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 35 points to 9.47¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 36 points to 9.43¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25³/₄-26¢; 91 Score, 25¹/₂ cents; 90 score, 24 cents.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13¹/₂ to 15¹/₂¢; S. Daisies, 14¹/₄ to 14³/₄¢; Y. Americas, 14¹/₂ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 18

Section 1

July 22, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

A London dispatch to-day says: "The seven-power conference now in session in London with the objective of preserving the financial stability of Germany reached a definite decision yesterday that the immediate task is to pull the Reich out of the present banking difficulties by assuring the world that Germany's existing credit shall not be further impaired by withdrawals of money but, on the contrary, that it shall be strengthened by additional short-term loans...."

The text of the American proposal for the maintenance of short-term credits to Germany to meet the present economic crisis in that country, in the form in which it was sent to Secretary of State Stimson and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon at London for presentation to the seven-power conference, was made public yesterday by William R. Castle, jr., Acting Secretary of State. The essence of the problem is the restoration of confidence in Germany's economic life, both in Germany and abroad. (Press, July 22.)

WHEAT ACREAGE CUT URGED

A Manhattan, Kans., dispatch to-day says: "A reduction of at least 20 per cent in the State's wheat acreage was included in a composite recommendation of farm practices which was issued yesterday by officials of Kansas State College....College officials stated that each farmer, by developing for his own farm a balanced system, including several crops and some livestock, could settle his own wheat acreage problem."

RAIL RATE HEARING

The first pause in hearings on the plea of the railroads for increased freight rates was reached yesterday with an adjournment designed to enable the opposition to prepare its case, according to the press to-day.

COTTON UTILIZATION

The press to-day states that a proposal of cotton-growing interests that cotton be used exclusively in the production of Government paper money has been rejected by the Treasury Department because the present stock of paper used for the manufacture of currency is found more durable, being made up of 25 per cent cotton and 75 per cent linen.

FRUIT EXPORT

A London dispatch July 19 says: "Half a million dollars' worth of fruit from New Zealand and California, originally shipped to Germany, is being diverted to England because the Germans can not afford to buy it. Thousands of boxes of apples and oranges and thousands of bunches of bananas are included. 'This means,' says The Daily Herald, 'that great quantities of produce will be thrown on London and other markets in this country and probably sold much below normal prices. The prospect has caused much alarm. It is feared, indeed, that the German position may cause a depression of the English fruit trade.'"

Section 2

Agricultural Marketing Act An editorial in Southern Agriculturist for July says: "One of the greatest needs of American agriculture is for as full use as is possible of cooperative effort. Farmers need to buy more cooperatively, to produce cooperatively in some instances, and to sell cooperatively. Most of the people on the farm are in love with their job and with country life but things have not been going as they should. The need for help, for relief, if you please, is imperative. The buying power of the farm dollar is distressingly low. Selling prices of farm commodities are below pre-war levels, while what the farmer buys is much higher than in pre-war times. Taxes are greatly increased and the volume of interest that must be paid on the farm is tremendous. This is not a time for selfish interests to try to take from the farmer an act created to serve him, namely, the Agricultural Marketing Act. This act is not satisfactory to all agricultural people, but the masses of those who have given it any consideration desire to give it a chance to function. While it has been in action and probably has saved money for cotton and wheat farmers, it has really not been tried out yet. Its main function is to assist cooperatives and it takes time to successfully organize farmers into marketing organizations....Let us hold this act until it has been tried thoroughly. It will require several more years to adequately determine its merits. With rare exceptions those who are calling for repeal or for drastic amendment are not sincere in their desire to serve agriculture...."

Agricultural Planning An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for July 18 says: "Russia's example apparently is encouraging agricultural planning. Quebec has undertaken her five-year poultry improvement program. Maryland announces a five-year agricultural and rural home program for her extension workers. Definite objectives are here set up for the production and marketing of each commodity. This is good and should encourage long term plans on individual farms. Nothing would help Michigan farmers more than sound, long time farm programs. And striving for goals does as much to make strong men as it does good farms. But these goals should be worth while. Poor planning is as objectionable as good planning is wise."

Diet and Teeth Science for July 17 says: "Dental caries, a disease in which the teeth decay and cavities form, can be controlled by suitable diet, it appears from the report to the American Dental Association of Dr. R. W. Bunting, Dr. Philip Jay and Dr. Dorothy Hard, of the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. These investigators carried on an experiment in caries control for one year in three large groups of children in public schools and orphanages. The children were given a varied diet, fortified by one quart of milk and some green vegetables and fruit for each child every day. They were not given either cod liveroil or viosterol. They had no sugar on cereals or in beverages, very little sweetened preserves and pastries, and little or no candy....In three groups in which fairly adequate diets were provided, active caries were almost negligible and old cavities were quite uniformly arrested. In two groups in which the diets were not carefully planned, the dental disease was very rapid and active in its course. Further similar studies are planned."

Food Prices

Retail food prices in 51 cities of the United States, as reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, showed an average decrease of a little more than 2 per cent on June 15, 1931, when compared with May 15, 1931, and an average decrease of about 20 per cent since June 15, 1930. The bureau's weighted index numbers, with average prices in 1913 as 100.0, were 147.9 for June 15, 1930, 121.0 for May 15, 1931, and 118.3 for June 15, 1931. During the month from May 15, 1931, to June 15, 1931, 34 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Potatoes, 14 per cent; plate beef, 6 per cent; chuck roast and lard, 4 per cent; rib roast, oleomargarine and cheese, 3 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, pork chops, sliced bacon, sliced ham, leg of lamb, hens, fresh milk, butter, cornmeal, navy beans, cabbage, canned corn, canned peas, prunes, and bananas, 2 per cent; canned red salmon, bread, cornflakes, macaroni, rice, pork and beans, canned tomatoes, coffee, and oranges, 1 per cent; and wheat cereal and tea, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Three articles increased: Strictly fresh eggs and onions, 4 per cent; raisins 1 per cent. Five articles showed no change in the month: Evaporated milk, vegetable lard substitute, flour, rolled oats, and sugar. During the month from May 15, 1931, to June 15, 1931, 48 of the 51 cities from which prices were received showed decreases in the average cost of food.

Wheat Credit

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for July 18 says:

"Chairman Stone of the Farm Board is exactly right in answering the suggestion for a moratorium on farm loans by saying that it is not within the power of the board. However, a real crisis has developed in the wheat market that should be met, if a way of meeting it can be devised. Whether a moratorium on farm debts in the wheat belt is advisable is a question for the State authorities, and to them the farmers advocating it should take their plea....The plight of the wheat farmers is admittedly serious and distressing, but whether or not a moratorium should be granted in this emergency is a question the interested States should decide after both sides of the question have been examined. Farmers who can get along without sacrificing their wheat probably will gain by holding it. As a general thing the man who markets wheat in the autumn gains by so doing. But conditions are unusual now, and wheat is selling below its worth. There is not as much wheat in the world as there was a year ago. Even with the unusual carryover in this country and Canada the total supply will be smaller than a year ago; it is improbably that Argentina and Australia, with reduced acreage, will harvest as much as last year, and drought is reducing the fearsome bogey of Russia. Economic conditions and fear are setting the price of wheat. There are no prospects of an overnight change, but it is probable that the German crisis will be bridged, and that, learning something from this experience, the nations will join in taking steps to end the economic war that now prevails. If that is done wheat should ultimately sell for something near its real worth. But such a prospect of course avails only the farmer who can afford to hold his crop....About ten years ago the cattle industry was in straits as desperate as those the wheat farmers are in to-day. A banker in Kansas City laid the matter before eastern capitalists and very quickly a huge pool was formed with sufficient capital to save the industry. That shows what can be done. Surely the Southwest has sufficient leadership, and the country has the money,

to make small loans to farmers who can not otherwise meet interest and taxes. Such relief would probably be required by only a part of those who are in the all-wheat class."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

Secretary Hyde is the author of an article entitled "To Hold Our Lead in Cotton" in The Country Gentleman for August. In this the Secretary says: "...Cotton is our greatest export crop. We may be able to hold production of many crops on substantially a domestic basis. This is not possible with cotton. While we are not forgetting the necessity of planning cotton production to meet the demands of the world market, this administration is also alive to the dire need of improving the quality of our crop and reducing production costs. We must reduce costs if we are to hold our dominant position in the world market for this, the world's most useful fiber. The cotton growers of America are face to face with the long-time, but acute, problem of meeting world competition. Our cotton exports have barely held their own during the past twenty years. Yet during this period world consumption of cotton outside of the United States has gone up more than 50 per cent. This expanded demand abroad has been supplied by foreign growers, and only our greatly increased domestic consumption has enabled the cotton farmer to fare as well as he has. During this period in which we have been slipping backward in world standing, production costs in this country have increased and quality has gone down. Our yield per acre, which, twenty years ago, was around 190 pounds, is now but little over 150 pounds....Neither the South nor the Nation as a whole can afford to stand by complacently and watch the cotton industry suffer avoidable decadence...."

"For these reasons, we plan to enlarge and coordinate our research work for cotton. This means collective planning, collective thinking and collective working upon the supply-and-demand problems, the production problems, and upon the multitude of problems connected with the economic distribution and marketing of the crop. We hope to head this collective work up in a small committee within the United States Department of Agriculture. Progress will be made more surely and more soundly if back of this program there is a growing, coherent, unified body of scientific research--research that favorably affects prices, marketing processes and production costs. The Department of Agriculture and the several State colleges already have an impressive body of knowledge of cotton and cotton farming. Our present aim is to correlate it, analyze it, and follow through with further research along lines which that correlation will inevitably point out. This should develop a program of lasting value...Two parts in our program have to do with planning the crop before it is produced and with marketing it afterward. ~~The cotton grower depends more exclusively on price than does the corn grower. The cotton farmer must not p...~~ The third and important step in bringing profits to the cotton growers lies in reducing costs of production. A reduction in production costs will leave, as net farm income, more of that part of the consumer's dollar which an improved marketing system will bring to the farmer as gross returns for his product....This correlation of all our efforts, Federal and State, is planned, first, because all the accumulated results should be brought together and studied as a whole; and, second, because no production problem can be separated from the purely human problem of making a decent living which presses upon the producer...."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 21.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8.75; vealers, good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.25; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.35 to \$7; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.45; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$7 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$8; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.75.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 62 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 66 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 53 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 54¢; St. Louis 51¢ to 52¢; Kansas City 45¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 53 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 54 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 44 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 50¢ to 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 58¢; Minneapolis 51¢ to 52¢; St. Louis 56 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ (new); Minneapolis 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 25¢; Kansas City 27¢ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes selling mostly at \$1.50-\$2.60 per barrel in city markets; \$1.50-\$1.65 f.o.b. Eastern Shore loading station; Kansas and Missouri sacked Cobblers \$1-\$1.20 per 100 pounds in Chicago carlot market; Kansas shippers getting 95¢-\$1.10 for best stock. Western cantaloupes jobbing in terminal markets mostly at \$2-\$3.50 per standard crate of 45 melons, with Arkansas stock at \$1.50-\$2.75 and North Carolina cantaloupes at a wide range of \$1-\$3. Crates of 45 Honey Balls ranging \$1.50-\$3 in consuming centers; 80¢-85¢ cash track in the Imperial Valley of California. Crates of Honey Dews mostly \$1-\$1.75 in city markets; 60¢ f.o.b. cash track. Virginia yellow onions jobbing at 60¢-75¢ per bushel hamper in the East, with New Jersey yellows ranging 65¢-\$1. The 50-pound sacks of Iowa yellows brought 90¢-\$1.50 in large city markets. Southeastern Tom Watson watermelons returning \$1.00-\$2.25 per carload of 24 to 30-pound average stock on cash-track basis at shipping points; jobbing sales in terminal markets at \$3.25-\$4.00 per car or 30¢-65¢ per melon. Other varieties selling somewhat lower than Tom Watsons. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium size, bringing \$1-\$1.25 per six-basket crate or per bushel basket at shipping points, with crates of Hileys at 90¢-\$1 and bushels at 65¢. City dealers getting \$1.50-\$3 per crate of Elbertas, with Hileys at \$1.15-\$2.50 and Georgia Balles at \$1-\$2.75.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 25 points to 8.78¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 12.39¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 24 points to 9.28¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 22 points to 9.21¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 25¢; 90 score, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were, Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

The city of Boston, situated on a neck of land between the harbor and the bay, was first settled by a small number of Englishmen in 1630. These settlers, who were led by John Winthrop, founded a colony that grew rapidly in size and importance. The city's location, with its natural harbor and access to the sea, made it a center of trade and commerce. Over the years, Boston has been the site of many significant events, including the American Revolution and the Civil War. Its rich history and cultural heritage have made it one of the most important cities in the United States.

The city of Boston has a long and storied history. It was founded in 1630 by a group of Puritan settlers who sought to create a new society based on their religious beliefs. The city's early years were marked by hardship and struggle, but it eventually emerged as a major center of trade and commerce. Boston played a key role in the American Revolution, and its citizens were instrumental in the fight for independence. Today, Boston is a vibrant city with a rich cultural scene and a strong economy.

Boston's history is filled with interesting stories and events. One of the most famous is the Boston Tea Party, which took place in 1773. This act of protest against British taxation led to the city's occupation by British troops. Another important event was the Battle of the Clouds, which took place in 1780. This battle was a decisive victory for the British, but it also marked the end of their occupation of the city. Boston's history is a testament to the city's resilience and its ability to overcome adversity.

The city of Boston has a rich cultural heritage. It is home to many famous institutions, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Harvard University. Boston is also known for its sports teams, including the Boston Red Sox and the Boston Celtics. The city's architecture is a mix of old and new, with many historic buildings and modern skyscrapers. Boston's location, with its harbor and access to the sea, makes it a great place to live and work.

Boston is a city of many firsts. It was the first city in the United States to have a public library, and it was the first city to have a public park. Boston was also the first city to have a public school system. The city's commitment to education and culture has made it a great place to live and work. Boston's history is a testament to the city's resilience and its ability to overcome adversity.

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 19

Section 1

July 23, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

A London dispatch to-day says: "The seven-power conference assembled in London to conserve Germany's credit has achieved its limited and immediate objective. Germany will be saved to-day from financial disaster and opportunity will be given to her to reap the benefits intended by President Hoover when he announced the year's war debt holiday June 20. Furthermore, the international arrangement by which she is to get immediate and indispensable relief from the present drain on her banking resources is also Mr. Hoover's plan, as made public yesterday, for an agreement among the banking interests of the creditor countries to stop withdrawing their credits. France has agreed to that much without any demands whatever for political or other conditions. The other five creditor powers, the United States, Great Britain, Japan, Italy and Belgium are all in accord. Germany, of course, agrees, even though she wanted more far-reaching remedies than are comprehended within the scope of this emergency plan...."

KANSAS TAX MORATORIUM

A Topeka, Kans., dispatch to-day says: "Many Kansas counties have declared a moratorium on taxes to assist farmers of the country's chief wheat-producing State who are receiving the lowest prices in history in a year which brought their largest crop. A survey reveals officials of at least seventeen counties of the 105 in the State postponed for periods ranging up to one month the date fixed by law for payment of semi-annual tax installments without penalty. Walter Pleasant, chairman of the Tax Commission, and Roland Boynton, Attorney General, asserting there was no legal authority for extension, have refused to give their sanction."

LABOR CON- DITIONS

Invitations were issued jointly by the Departments of Commerce and Labor yesterday to miners and operators in the bituminous coal fields for a conference to decide what can be done to stabilize wages and improve general conditions in the industry, according to the press to-day. The date for the conference was left open, but it will be held in Washington. About 125 invitations were issued.

EMIGRATION

A Dublin dispatch to-day says: "The tide of Irish emigration to America has turned. Immigrants from the United States are reported to have exceeded Free State emigrants to America by 604 during the first six months of this year. According to official figures, only 476 people emigrated from the Free State to the United States in the six-months' period, as against 868 in the corresponding period of last year. Immigrants to the Free State from America totaled 1,080, as compared with 821 in the corresponding period of 1930."

Section 2

Business
Recovery

John R. Fleming is the author of an article on "Beginnings of Recovery" in The Farm Journal for August. Mr. Fleming presents statistics and tables by which he endeavors to show that if we can judge the future by the past we are now starting to climb out of depression. He says in part: "Have we reached and passed the low point in the business depression? Are we now on the upgrade? If we are, how fast are we likely to climb, and for how long? The man who can answer those questions positively, offering gilt-edged guarantees with each answer, has not yet made his appearance. But--and it is an important but--we can offer the record of the past as a guide to the future. Economic history often has a way of repeating itself. Human behavior hasn't changed noticeably in the past century or so. Producers and consumers have so far in this depression responded to the same stimuli in about the same way as in previous depressions. It is not unreasonable therefore to expect them to continue to do so in the immediate future. The great depressions, in other words, have always had certain broad similarities. Recoveries from depressions have always had certain broad similarities. If we can take note of the similarities, and allow properly for the differences, we can use the past as a rough guide to the future. Economic earthquakes and tornadoes, of course, are outside the pale of this discussion....What prevents us from expecting an 'average' recovery is that the present depression is probably more world-wide than were the earlier ones. More countries and a greater degree of international interdependence are involved. Nor can we be sure that commodity prices will rise sufficiently to give business more than a moderate stimulus. The unforeseen, of course, may happen. It usually does. A short crop some place, for instance, may change the picture slightly. The international debt moratorium suggested by President Hoover would doubtless be an important factor in raising the rate of recovery, if one may judge by the optimism it has already inspired. The trend of farm prices, you will notice, has been mentioned here only incidentally. That is because industrial activity is the dominant factor in a business cycle, and because a low level of commodity prices may retard but not wholly prevent a business recovery. The trend of farm prices, furthermore, is a very complex chapter that is related to farm production as well as to city demand. It requires consideration by itself." Recalling the questions asked in the first paragraph of this article, we can summarize our answers this way: It is probable that we have reached and passed the low point in the business depression. We seem to be on the upgrade, though the course of industrial activity this summer may show a temporary halt. We may not climb as fast this time as we did after the low point of 1921, and we may not climb as high, but it is likely that for the next 18 months our course will be pretty regularly upward."

Cooperation

An editorial in The Dakota Farmer for July 15 says: "What may eventually prove to be an initial step leading to but one large national grain cooperative was recently consummated by the Farmers National Grain Corporation through the purchase and lease of 45 elevators in the Inter-mountain country. Twenty-three elevators were obtained from the Colorado Milling and Elevator Company, 16 from the Globe Grain and Milling Company and others from individual companies. They afford

storage for $2\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels of grain. Mr. Pence, manager of the Farmers National Grain Corporation, said the transaction marked the start of a nation-wide ownership of all elevators handling grain marketed through the Federal Farm Board set-up. Other recent transactions also add to evidence of the intent of the Farmers National Grain Corporation to build a nation-wide grain sales plan. It recently leased a million bushel storage terminal at Ogden and is said to be attempting to purchase an elevator with 2,500,000 capacity in Minneapolis."

Cotton

Utilization

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for July 18 says: "Every now and then it would seem someone suggests to the cotton planters of the South that if they would use cotton cloth for wrapping the cotton, a great many bales of cotton would be consumed. Cotton, for many years past has been baled in jute bagging; this material, made from jute butts, imported from India chiefly, forms an item in the planters' expense account, and it has been understood as a detail in the handling of cotton. The idea of using cotton cloth for baling cotton has been proposed many times, and tests made regarding the durability and general excellence of cotton baling appear to have given it a recommendation. But the planters do not adopt the cotton baling cotton idea. There has always been some reason advanced for continuing the use of jute--and yet the proposition recurs practically every season..."

Egg Tariff

An editorial in The Dakota Farmer for July 15 says: "The announcement that President Hoover has authorized a change in rate increasing by 50%, from 18 to 27 cents a pound, the import duty on dried eggs is heartening news to the American farmer. With the 'upping' of the tariff on dried eggs agriculture has again been given an excellent example of results that can be achieved through cooperative endeavors. From practically all sections of the United States President Hoover and the Tariff Commission have been flooded with petitions urging an increase in egg tariff rates and in this participation the farmers and poultrymen in the Dakotas put a solid shoulder to the wheel. The Dakota Farmer acting as a clearing office has forwarded petitions from time to time--petitions bearing the names of thousands of Dakota farmers. The movement throughout the United States was led by various agricultural groups and the farm press....The new egg rate is going to give better protection against the influx of imports which have been increasing tremendously during the past year and was one of the important factors that greatly reduced egg prices in this country...."

Eugenics and

Population

Julian Huxley, writing on "The Vital Importance of Eugenics" in Harpers for August, says: "...Most people would agree that men who have been educated at Harvard come from stock which is above the average of success in America. Now if Harvard were to recruit itself entirely from the sons of its alumni, then, even if every Harvard man were compelled to send his sons to the old college, the institution would progressively and quite rapidly decline; for the average number of sons which Harvard alumni now have is not three or four, as it would have been in earlier ages, not even one, which is necessary to maintain the absolute numbers of Harvard-educated stock, but only about three-fourths. The other example comes from England. In the Census of 1911--the only one for which accurate figures on this subject are available--

the population was grouped into five main economic classes, of which the highest included all the professional classes, as well as some others, while the lowest consisted of unskilled labor. This lowest economic class had a fertility which, even after all corrections were made for infant mortality, age of marriage and so forth, was not only about double that of the professional group, but was nearly fifty per cent above that of the population as a whole. As a result, the economically least successful twenty per cent of the working population existing in 1911 gave rise to about twenty-five per cent of the next generation of Englishmen. Dr. R. A. Fisher goes on to point out that, far from man being universally more exempt from natural selection than are wild species of animals or plants, in regard to one characteristic at least, he is exceptionally subject to selective influences, and that is fertility. The reason for this is that human beings vary far more in regard to their actual fertility than do wild species of animals or plants. Lions may vary from, say, two to five in number of offspring, snowshoe rabbits from perhaps three to twelve; but human families range regularly from zero to ten, fifteen, or even twenty. The number of couples with two, one, or no children is relatively large; and thus the possessors of six, five, or even four children are at an enormous reproductive advantage. If this were all, then the quicker-multiplying stocks would simply increase at the expense of the slower, a process which we may observe in Eastern Canada to-day. But if other qualities, desirable or undesirable, come to be associated with fertility, then the automatic reproductive selection which fertility brings will change the stock in these regards as well...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 22.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8.85; vealers, good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.25; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.40 to \$7.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.45; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$7. (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$8.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.75.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 62 $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢ to 66 $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 52¢; Kansas City 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 46¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 45¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 49¢ to 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 52¢ to 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 24¢ (new); Minneapolis 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 26¢; St. Louis 25¢; Kansas City 27¢ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes stronger at shipping points at \$1.60-\$1.65 per barrel; \$1.35-\$2.60 in large city markets. Kaw Valley sacked Cobblers ranging 85¢-\$1 per 100 pounds of combination grade stock at Kansas shipping points, with U. S. No.1 stock as high as \$1.10. Chicago carlot sales of Kansas and Missouri Cobblers ranging \$1-\$1.20 per 100 pounds. Western cantaloupes jobbing at \$2-\$3.25 per standard crate of 45 in consuming centers. Arkansas stock mostly \$1.50-\$2.50 and North Carolina cantaloupes \$1-\$3 in terminal markets. Texas Salmon Tints \$1.10-\$1.25 per jumbo crate at shipping points; \$1.25-\$3 in city markets. California Honey Balls stronger on a cash-track basis at 85¢ per crate of 45 in Imperial Valley, with city sales at \$1.50-\$2.75. California Honey Dews jobbing at \$1-\$1.75 in consuming centers; 55¢-60¢ f.o.b. cash-track in Imperial Valley. Virginia yellow onions selling at 50¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in city markets, with New Jersey receipts at 65¢-\$1.10. Iowa yellow onions in 50-pound sacks bringing 75¢-\$1.50 in large terminals. Southeastern Tom Watson water-melons ranging \$225-\$400 per carload of 24 to 30-pound stock in consuming centers, or 25¢-60¢ on a unit basis. Cash-track sales in central Georgia ranging \$90-\$160 and in South Carolina \$75-\$150 per carload of medium-sized Tom Watsons, with other varieties lower. Georgia Elberta peaches returning 70¢-75¢ per crate or bushel basket f.o.b. shipping points, with medium-sized Hileys at 85¢ per crate and small-sized Belles at 65¢. City markets quoting Elbertas at \$1.25-\$2.50; Belles at \$1.25-\$2.25, and Hileys at \$1-\$2.50 per crate or bushel basket.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 23 points to 8.54¢ per pound. On the same day last season the price stood at 12.17¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 24 points to 8.99¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 20 points to 9.01¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 25¢; 90 score, 24¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 20

Section 1

July 24, 1931.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

A London dispatch to-day states that the seven-power London conference for the financial relief of Germany adjourned yesterday afternoon sine die, having accomplished all it intended to do and all it was permitted to do within the limits to which the deliberations had been rigorously restricted by advance agreement. The report says: "It has, in brief, staved off the impending bankruptcy of Germany, and furthermore set up machinery whereby the country's new needs in the near future may be examined by an international committee with a view to converting a portion of the short-term into long-term credits. The conference has done this, not only in accordance with the spirit of the suggestions sent by President Hoover to Secretaries Stimson and Mellon last week, but also in accordance with the very letter of those Washington proposals...."

THE PRESIDENT ON THE LONDON CONFERENCE

Satisfaction with the outcome of the seven-power conference on the German financial crisis was expressed yesterday after its adjournment in London by President Hoover. He said in part: "The London conference has laid sound foundations for the establishment of stability in Germany. The major problem is one affecting primarily the banking and credit conditions and can best be solved by the voluntary cooperation of the bankers of the world rather than by governments with their conflicting interests. Such a basis of cooperation is assured. The program supplements the suspension of intergovernmental debts already in effect. The combined effect should enable the German people with their resources, industry and courage to overcome the temporary difficulties and restore their credit. The program contributes to expedite recovery from world-wide depression through the overcoming of the most important elements in the crisis affecting Central Europe...."

WHEAT FOR FARM MACHINERY

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Chicago says: "Many of the International Harvester Company's dealers have arranged to accept wheat as half payment for farm machinery. This was announced last night by Alexander Legge, chairman of the company's board. Wheat for December delivery will be accepted at 75 cents a bushel on the basis of the Chicago price, which yesterday ranged from 51½ to 54 cents. This would mean a bonus of more than 20 cents minus the shipping cost."

RAIL RATE HEARINGS

In an endeavor to expedite consideration of the railroads' request for a 15 per cent increase in freight rates, the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday advanced from August 31 to August 10 the resumption of hearings at which opposition testimony will be heard, according to the press to-day.

Section 2

Adams on
Business
Depres-
sions

James Truslow Adams, in Harpers Magazine for August, suggests that we live in an age which lacks perspective in many of our judgments. "We concentrate on the act, the problem, the situation of the moment, with ever-decreasing effort to see them, in relation to their background, as parts of a whole." One result is apparent, he believes, in our appraisal of the business depression through which we have been passing. Because of our intentness on the problem immediately in hand, we magnify the risks and hardships of the present situation, and forget more trying experiences through which the country passed in earlier years. Mr. Adams calls attention in his article to some of the difficulties which the United States experienced in former depressions. He says: "...This present crash is no new phenomenon in our history. We went mad over real estate before the panic of 1837. Sales of public lands by the Government jumped from about 4,500,000 acres in 1834 to over 20,000,000 two years later....Just as in 1929 people thought it was their last chance to buy 'equities' in the United States through common stocks, so, absurdly, though no more insanely, people in 1835 thought it was their last chance to buy land in the country....The failure of the great United States Bank in 1839 redoubled the fury of the storm. During the crisis nine-tenths of all the eastern factories were closed, and the same proportion of their hands idle. The 'white collar class' also suffered, and in Philadelphia from one-half to two-thirds of all the clerks in the city were discharged....Laws were passed in Western States to prevent property being sold for debt. Early in March, 1837, several of the greatest firms in New York and New Orleans failed....The panic of 1857 was not quite so severe. There were heavy failures among banks, life insurance companies, and such railways as the Illinois Central and Michigan Central, with suspension of specie payments by all the banks in the country. The crisis had been coming on from 1854, and at its acutest stage in 1857 industry almost stopped for a while with severe distress to labor....Business declined until 1859, making a quick recovery the following year. The depression of 1873 was much worse, and although there were the usual warnings for those who could see, it burst on the country with great suddenness....The next great depression, in due cyclical course, which I well remember even as a boy, took place twenty years later, in 1893. In a few months 407 public and private banks failed, 47 savings banks, 13 trust companies, and 16 mortgage companies. In 1873, nine out of every thousand commercial houses had collapsed; in 1893, the number was thirteen, with total liabilities 50 per cent greater than in the former crash. Scorching winds reduced the corn crop of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska from 548,000,000 bushels to 137,000,000. On the other hand, wheat fell to the lowest price ever touched before or after, 49 cents a bushel....We will not describe the minor crisis of 1907, as it was much less severe, but may note that even then, in what we have almost forgotten as a mere episode, the production of pig iron dropped fifty per cent in less than a year. I have not attempted to recount the story of any of these depressions in detail or to discuss their causes. My purpose has been merely to find some sort of standard measure for the time we are passing through now, so that we may view it in perspective....It would seem as though one of our chief problems were to learn how to keep our mental balance by being able to react against the emotionalistic mush of all and every close-up by clear thought in terms of relations and background...."

Argentine
Elevators

A Buenos Aires dispatch July 23 states that 40 more grain elevators will be erected by the Association of Argentine Agricultural Societies in the Port Rosario zone, in addition to the huge terminal elevator opened officially in Rosario July 19, and the six country elevators already operated by the association. Concessions for construction have already been granted. The report says: "Opening the terminal elevator at Rosario last Sunday, Provisional President Uriburu said that cooperative organizations would rescue Argentine agriculture from hazards and speculation, stabilize rural life and lower production costs. He added that farmers never before had enjoyed orderly political representation in Congress, which heretofore had been monopolized by professional politicians, and urged that rural interests should have direct representation."

Cotton Util-
ization

The Bureau of Standards has found that parachutes made of domestic cotton cloth can be equal or superior to those made of parachute silk in strength and tear resistance, according to an announcement made by George K. Burgess, director of the bureau. Tests of the cotton parachute were made in cooperation with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. They have also been made successfully by the Navy Department. The cotton cloth was woven in the bureau mill and in addition to proving its strength and tear resistance, met the requirements with respect to air permeability and weighed only a few tenths of an ounce per square yard more than silk cloth. (Press, July 18.)

Farm Values

The average value of the land and buildings of American farms shrank from \$10,284 per farm in 1920 to \$7,614 in 1930, and from \$69.39 an acre in 1920 to \$48.52 an acre in 1930, according to a statement issued by the Director of the Census giving results of the 1930 farm census. The value of farm land and building dropped from \$36,316,002,602 in 1920 to \$49,467,647,287 in 1925 and to \$47,879,838,358 in 1930. Of these values, the land alone was rated at \$54,829,563,059 in 1920, \$37,721,018,222 in 1925 and \$34,929,844,584 last year. The number of farms fell from 6,448,343 in 1920 and 6,371,640 in 1925 to 6,288,648 in 1930. The farm average decreased from 955,883,715 in 1920 to 924,319,352 in 1925, but increased to 986,771,016 last year. The value of farm implements and machinery was \$3,594,772,928 in 1920, \$2,691,703,629 in 1925 and \$3,301,663,482 in 1930. There was an increase in the number of farms of twenty acres or less and an increase in the number of farms over 500 acres in size, but a decrease in the number of farms between 20 and 500 acres in size. (Press, July 23.)

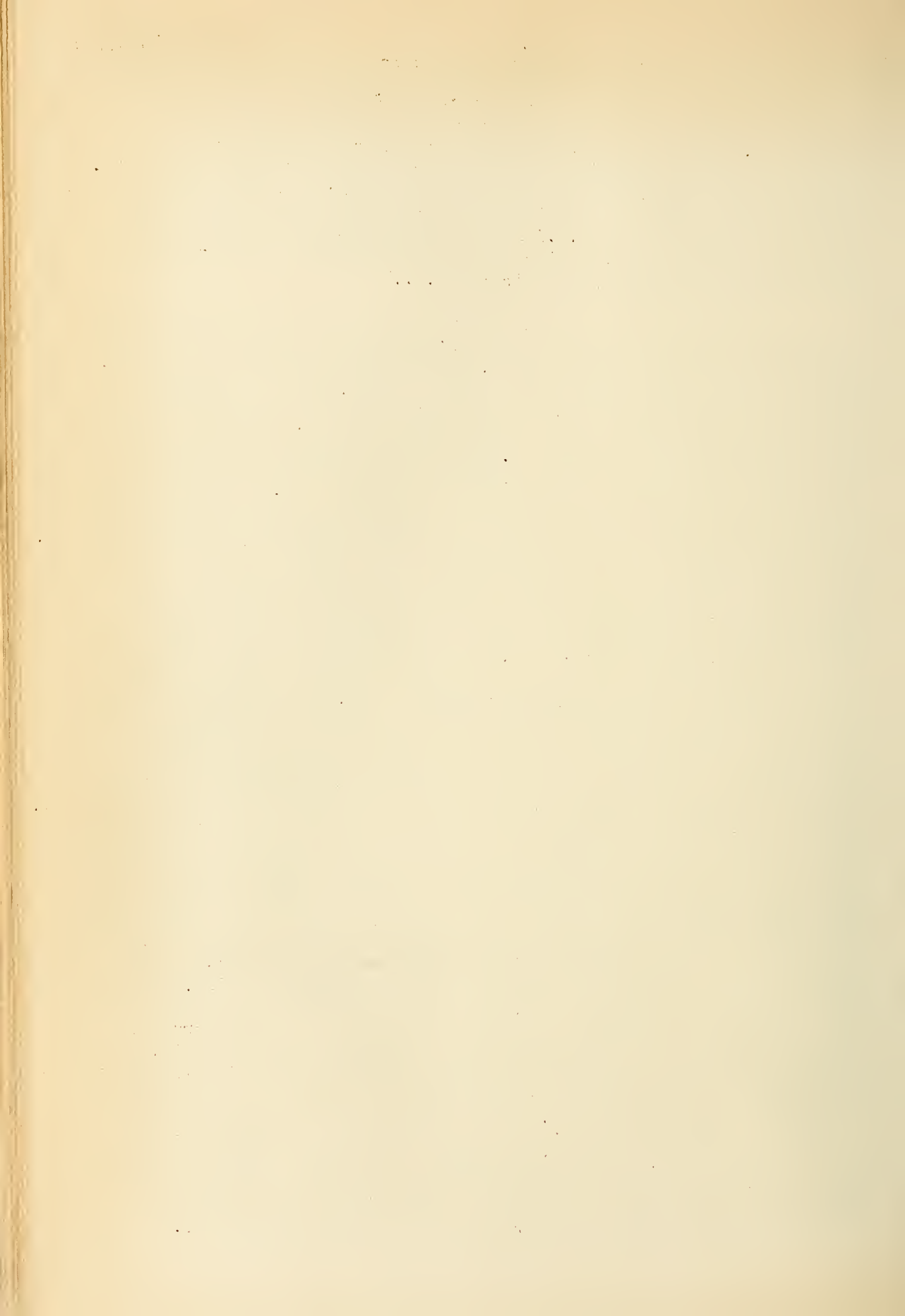
Florida
Grapes

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for July 22 says: "Florida grape growers are making noteworthy and commendable progress, as was demonstrated in the annual convention of the Florida Grape Growers' Association held in Orlando on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, and by their exhibit of grapes at the convention, which was remarkably well attended by members of the association and by those interested in grape growing, as a branch of agricultural industry. The grape exhibit of this year was an improvement over similar exhibits of former years, indicating that appreciable progress is being made in the matter of varieties being grown, and, particularly, in the quality and appearance of the grapes that were on exhibition, showing that advancement is

being made by the growers, in selection of varieties best suited to Florida conditions of soil and climate, and in the matter of culture as well. In the convention proceedings it was made evident that careful and painstaking efforts are being made to carry forward this important work of improvement, as is very necessary in order to make commercial grape growing in Florida the worth while industry that it is possible of being made....The Florida Grape Growers' Association is leading the way for building and firmly establishing a very important grape growing industry in this State...."

Taxation

An editorial on "Oppressive Taxation" in The Country Gentleman for August says: "All over the country people are beginning to speak out against oppressive taxation. It is time they took that stand. Any American who is forty years old has seen a 1,200 per cent increase in the Nation's tax bill within his lifetime. Even the simplest kind of reasoning should indicate that such a multiplication of public expenditures can not go on unchecked. One good and sufficient reason why it can not is that taxes are outrunning the ability to pay them. The plain truth about the tax situation amounts to just this: The functions and costs of every branch of government and tax-fed service have increased more rapidly than the wealth and income of the people, which must support them. There are certain inevitable ends to such a course. One is disclosed in a recent report on tax delinquency by the Minnesota Tax Commission, which shows that in a number of counties the uncollected taxes amounted to more than the whole tax levy for a current year. Such figures occur in other States. They simply tell the story of property that is being forced out of owners' hands by excessive taxation. This process sets up a vicious chain of effects....That the present tax drain has impaired the living standards of many people is self-evident. In so doing, it has hurt all business and contributed to the severity of the depression. Not only are taxes absorbing an undue share of the current income of people, but they are confiscating future capital, for the chief source of capital is the balance of income that can be saved... The grand result of it all has been to plunge government into a multitude of activities, utterly beyond the purposes of the founders, to put one out of every eleven people on some sort of public payroll and to saddle many communities with debts that will run into the next generation. Any one taking a good, square look at American life will have to concede that the returns in human values have not been in ratio to the cost. This situation can be cured only by certain definite policies. One is to quit electing or otherwise encouraging the tax-spendthrift, bureaucracy-minded type of individual. Another is for every person to put each taxing proposal to the test of whether he himself can afford it, for he can be sure that some of its cost will be passed along to him. And a third, which has the virtue of being successfully applied in one State-- is to compel the setting up of sinking funds to retire all bond issues by the time they fall due. This plan is in effect in Montana. As a result many of the counties are retiring their bonded indebtedness ahead of its maturity, thus saving the taxpayers the cost of continued interest....The best proof of the efficacy of such a policy is that no less than thirty-four Montana counties have made conspicuous reductions in their bonded indebtedness, to the relief of their taxpayers."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 23.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$9; vealers, good and choice \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.40 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.75 to \$8; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.75.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 62 5/8¢ to 66 5/8¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 53 1/4¢; St. Louis 52¢ to 52 1/2¢; Kansas City 44 1/2¢ to 46¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 53 1/2¢; Kansas City 44 1/2¢ to 45¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 57¢; Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 49¢ to 50 1/2¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 57¢ to 57 1/2¢; Minneapolis 51¢ to 52¢; St. Louis 56 1/2¢; Kansas City 52¢ to 53 1/2¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 24¢ to 24 1/2¢ (new); Minneapolis 25 1/2¢ to 26¢; St. Louis 24¢ to 24 1/2¢; Kansas City 27¢ to 28 1/2¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes advanced at shipping points to \$1.65-\$1.75 per barrel, with city jobbing sales at \$1.25-\$2.75. Best Kaw Valley Cobblers ranging \$1-\$1.05 per 100-pound sack at Kansas shipping points; Chicago carlot sales of Kansas and Missouri stock at 95¢-\$1.10. Western cantaloupes bringing \$1.75-\$3.25 per standard-45 crate in large markets. Arkansas stock jobbing at \$1.50-\$2.50, and standard crates from North Carolina at 75¢-\$1.75 in the East. Jumbo crates of Texas salmon tints lower at shipping points at 90¢-\$1.10 on a cash-track basis, with city sales at \$1-\$2.50. California Honey Dews jobbing at \$1-\$1.75 per usual crate in consuming centers, with standard-45 crates of Honey Balls at \$1.50-\$2.50. Virginia yellow onions declined to 50¢-65¢ per bushel hamper in terminal markets, while New Jersey stock ranged 90¢-\$1. The 50-pound sacks of yellow onions from Iowa brought 70¢-\$1.50 in city markets, with arrivals from State of Washington at \$1.25-\$1.35 in Middle West. Southeastern Tom Watson watermelons weaker at \$50-\$125 per carload of 24 to 30-pound stock, cash-track at shipping points; \$240-\$400 per car in large terminal markets, with sales on a unit basis at 25¢-55¢. North Carolina Hiley peaches ranging 75¢-\$1 per crate or 50¢-\$1 per bushel basket, f.o.b. shipping points; city sales mostly at \$1-\$2. Georgia Elbertas 70¢-\$1 per crate or 65¢-75¢ per bushel basket, f.o.b. loading stations; \$1-\$2.10 on a jobbing basis in consuming centers.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 8 points to 8.62¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price was 11.94¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points to 9.13¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 2 points to 9.03¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24 3/4¢ to 25¢; 91 score, 24 1/2¢; 90 score, 23 1/2¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 1/2¢ to 15 1/2¢; Single Daisies, 14 1/2¢ to 15¢; Young Americas, 14 1/2¢ to 15 1/2¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

